

Summer 2005

new trail

The University of Alberta Alumni Magazine

University
bids farewell
to President
Rod Fraser

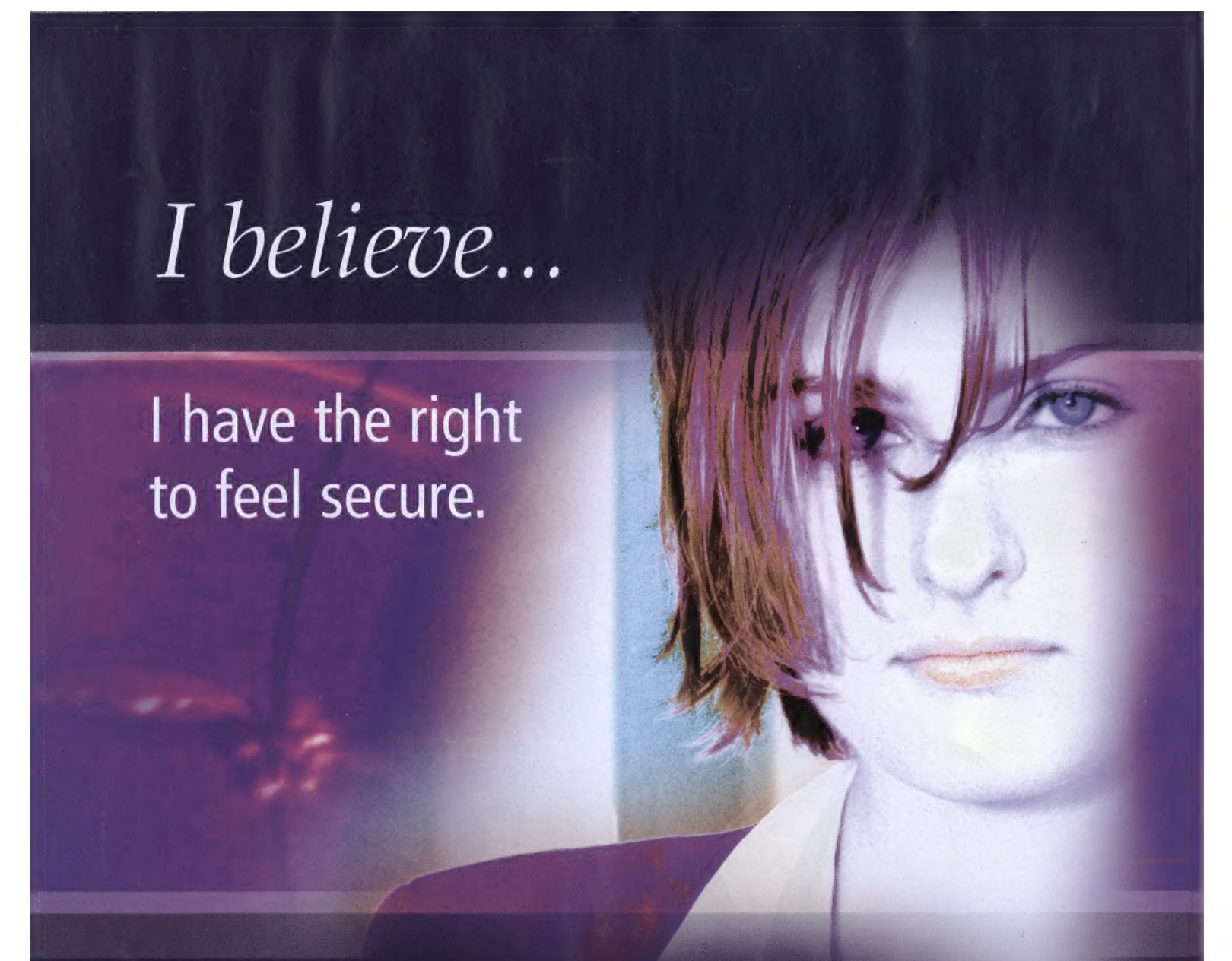
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features



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On the Move? To keep receiving *New Trail* call **492-3471** or **1-866-492-7516**, toll-free in North America. E-mail address changes to alumrec@ualberta.ca.

BASECAMP



This issue of *New Trail* focuses on President Rod Fraser and his enormous contributions to his alma mater.

As someone who has worked closely with Rod during the decade in which he gave his leadership to our university, my memories are of a person with a vision of limitless possibilities—someone who believed that if you achieved your goals you had not set them high enough.

Travelling with him to meet with our alumni around the world, I soon discovered that Rod has boundless energy. He quite literally took off at almost a runner's pace when he was moving from one place to the next. It took a team of people to schedule his meetings and incorporate his many agendas into his travel itinerary. People half his age could not keep up. I learned that three days travelling with him was my limit! He worked in taxis, on planes, and on trains. It was fascinating to see him put very disparate ideas together and create a new opportunity for the University of Alberta.

With his energy and vision, Rod has set the bar high for where we are now and where we must go. This summer he will be handing the baton to someone else to take us on the next leg of the journey to building the leaders of tomorrow.

Susan Peirce, '70 BA
Executive Director,
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new trail

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Proud of his U of A education

As a proud graduate of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Alberta, I enjoy reading *New Trail*, which is sent quarterly to my home in Michigan. I am looking forward to the reunion of my pharmacy class of '55, which will be held in Jasper this June.

At the Experimental Biology 2005 meeting of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) in San Diego in April, I was presented the 2005 Torald Sollmann Award, which is a lifetime achievement award.

Over the 44 years since this award was established in 1961, it has been presented 18 times. With the award comes an obligation to present an "oration" to the society. During my lec-

ture, I recognized the University of Alberta for my early education (I even used green and gold colors in my PowerPoint presentation!), and in particular Dr. Charles Nash in the Department of Physiology (there was no Department of Pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine at that time) who first "turned me on" to pharmacology.

*Kenneth E. Moore, '55
BSc(Pharm), '57 MSc
Professor and Chair Emeritus
Department of Pharmacology
and Toxicology
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan
14 April 2005*

We would like to hear your comments about the magazine. Send us your letters via postal mail or e-mail to the address on the previous page. The letters may be edited for length or clarity.

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landmarks

■ Randall Weselake, of the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition Science, and **Carole Estabrooks**, '87 MSc(Nu), '97 PhD, of the Faculty of Nursing, were among the 106 Canada



Carole Estabrooks

Research Chairs announced in April. This brings the total number of CRCs at the U of A to 86, which accounts for more than \$85 million in funding. Weselake investigates oil formation in canola, flax, and other plants, with an eye to enhancing oil production and to producing oils that are lower in saturated fats and higher in omega-3 fatty acids. Estabrooks' research investigates how healthcare providers get up-to-date information relevant to their work and how this information affects their day-to-day decision-making.

■ Pierre Boulanger, associate professor of computing science, received an iCORE/TRLabs Industrial Research Chair worth \$1.7 million to develop his groundbreaking work in collaborative virtual environments (CVE). In CVE, a simulated world runs on several computer systems connected over a network, and people using those computers are able to interact and collaborate in real time, sharing the same virtual world.

■ Agri-Food Discovery Place, a research centre set to open this fall at the U of A, received \$7.5 million of joint funding from the Canada/Alberta Western Economic Partnership Agreement to support its second phase of development. Agri-Food Discovery Place will research food safety and technologies related to crop and meat processing and value-added agriculture.

■ In March the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) announced its contribution of \$21 million in grants to researchers at the U of A. The funding will provide salaries, equipment, laboratory start-ups, and other support to 29 researchers in five U of A faculties: Medicine and Dentistry; Nursing; Arts; Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics; and Science. In January 2005 the provincial government announced a \$500 million boost to the endowment of AHFMR, now in its 25th year.

■ After almost 30 years at the University of Alberta, **Lynn Penrod**, '80 LLB, '86 LLM, a professor of French literature and law, was honoured with the U of A's Academic Women's Association Woman of the Year Award for her academic contributions and her promotion of academic women's interests. Penrod was associate dean of the Faculty of Arts and associate vice-president (academic) and continues to be involved with numerous University committees.



Vic Adamowicz, David Bundle

■ This year's recipients of the prestigious J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research are David Bundle, a professor of chemistry and a renowned carbohydrate scientist, and **Vic Adamowicz**, '81 BSc(Ag), '83 MSc, one of the world's top environmental and resource economists and a professor of rural economy. The Kaplan award is the highest honour the University bestows on its own researchers.



Fern Snart, Mike Mahon, Beth Horsburgh, David Lynch

■ Deans for four faculties have been appointed effective 1 July 2005. Beth Horsburgh has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Nursing, **David Lynch**, '81 PhD, has been appointed to a third term as dean of the Faculty of Engineering, **Mike Mahon**, '83 MSc, has been appointed to a second term as dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, and **Fern Snart**, '79 PhD, has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Education. Horsburgh comes to the U of A from the University of Saskatchewan, where she was dean of the College of Nursing. The appointments are for five years.

■ University of Alberta researchers were among the recipients of new health research grants announced by Prime Minister Paul Martin in March. An influx of funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) will benefit 31 researchers at the University of Alberta, who will collectively receive more than \$15 million in funding. CIHR, composed of 13 institutes, is the federal government's agency for health research.

■ **Randy Goebel**, '77 MSc, chair of the Department of Computing Science, has been named president and CEO of Alberta's Informatics Circle of Research Excellence (iCORE). He took up his new post on 1 January 2005. The Alberta government commits \$10 million a year to iCORE, which now supports 17 research teams, over 200 researchers, and more than 500 graduate students.

■ The recipients of the 2005 Rutherford Awards recognizing excellence in teaching were announced in March. The recipients are: Mazi Shirvani, mathematical and statistical sciences; Linda Trimble, political science;

David Kahane, philosophy; **Uttandaraman Sundararaj**, '89 BSc(Eng), chemical and materials engineering; Roderick Wood, law; **Beverly Kula**, '75 BEd, '83 MEd, elementary education; Laura Deakin, chemistry; and Candide Sloboda, nursing.

■ **Dale Schulha**, '72 BPE, '74 Dip(Ed), '74 MSc, became the new director of Athletics effective 15 May 2005. A member of the



Golden Bears football team from 1968 to 1972, Schulha was chair of the Department of

Athletics from 1989 to 1993 and also served as director of development and alumni affairs for the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation for eight years. He most recently worked in the U of A's Office of External Relations as associate director of development.

In Memoriam

The University notes with sadness the passing of James F. Forrest, professor emeritus of English, in March.



bear country

Mactaggart Art Collection donated to U of A Museums

In April, the U of A's Museums and Collections Services received a remarkably rich collection of Asian art and textiles, valued at more than \$37 million.

Donated by well-known philanthropists Cécile and Sandy Mactaggart, '90 LLD (Honorary), the collection consists of more than 700 pieces from a range of countries, time periods, and traditions. Textiles, costumes, and related artifacts date from the Song (960–1279), Ming (1314–1644), and Qing (1644–1912) dynasties. The art collection includes works from the 13th century to the 1980s, including a scroll

from 1698 that documents Emperor Kangxi's boat voyage of 1698 through south-east China.

The Mactaggart Art Collection will have an enormous influence on the study of East Asian culture for students, faculty, and scholars. It reflects the Mactaggarts' passion for collecting and documenting Asian artworks and artifacts. Sandy Mactaggart says the collection "started when I was in university and gathered over a lifetime, principally by my competent wife."

Janine Andrews, executive director of Museums and Collections Services, agrees that the collection is of great quality.

"The artifacts in this collection are extraordinary

and have been expertly researched, curated, and documented by the Mactaggarts, who have a depth of knowledge equal to many scholars."

Museums and Collections Services will now begin cataloguing, documenting, photographing, and digitizing the collection and developing plans for future storage, exhibition, and access to the works. An existing \$10 million endowment fund previously established at the U of A by the philanthropist couple will help make the collections accessible.

"This is the kind of collection that most museum directors dream of," notes Andrews, adding that the benefits extend beyond the museum. The University will now receive provincial government matching funds, which in turn will give a boost to the initiative already under way to create an institute for Chinese Studies at the U of A to promote greater understanding of the culture, language, and history of China.

Murray Gray, a professor of chemical and material engineering and a former dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, is heading up the China Centre Development Task Force. The task force will first take stock of all the major initiatives on campus that are related to China. The Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics, and School of Business have played leading roles in building educational ties to China.

"The clear direction is that it will be an academic centre, not a physical centre, and the term we are headed towards is 'institute,' so it will be an active umbrella with organizations that span all faculties," said Gray.

—Shelagh Kubish, '85 BA



Images courtesy of the Mactaggart Art Collection, University of Alberta Museums



Top: Tibetan Dancer's Robe, Qing Dynasty, Kangxi Period (1662–1722); left: Dowager Empress Robe, Late Qing Dynasty (1850–1912)

Pembina to become office space

"There is no exact duplicate in human relationships for the special feeling of friendship among those who have shared life in residence together, and it grows stronger with the years."

Those words appeared in a *New Trail* story from January 1946, written by an alumna reflecting on her days in Pembina Hall. The continuing strong bond among Pembinites was present in the recent bid by current student residents to save the residence from being converted into office space for University academics.

Pembina's residents got their message out through the media, wrote to University administration to protest the proposal, and launched a website—www.savepembinahall.ca—which included a petition eventually signed by more than 1,500 people, numerous messages and personal stories posted by visitors to the site, and the latest news about the changes.

Built in 1914 and for much of its life a residence for women students at the U of A, Pembina Hall served as a hospital during the 1918 influenza epidemic and a residence for Royal Canadian Air Force members during the



Men's residence staging a raid on Pembina Hall in the 1940s.

Second World War. It later became a coeducational residence for mostly graduate students. In 1974 Pembina residents battled to save the building from demolition, and the U of A received a Heritage Canada Award in 1977 for preserving Pembina Hall's original character through extensive renovations.

Despite the emotional ties to the residence, the University has decided it must go ahead with the plan to convert the building to academic space to address a severe space shortage on campus. At a Facilities Development Committee meeting on 22 April, the decision was made official.

"Our decision to proceed with this proposal was not an easy one," Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein wrote in a message to students. According to Amrhein, the move will ultimately benefit students

and the University as a whole. "The departments that would ultimately move into Pembina would be able to grow and maintain their academic vigour."

After renovations Pembina Hall will provide space to professors, researchers, graduate students, and support staff for a faculty or department or school.

City and campus primed for Universiade bid

The road to the World University Games is a long one for organizers at the University of Alberta and the City of Edmonton who want to bring the 2011 summer games for student athletes back to the capital city.

In March, Edmonton City Council confirmed its partnership with the U of A in bidding to host the games, which would bring 6,000 athletes from 125 countries to compete in 11 core sports—basketball, diving, fencing, soccer, gymnastics, judo, swimming, table tennis, volleyball and water polo—and up to three optional sports. The city and the U of A previously hosted the Universiade in 1983.

The U of A's Dean of Physical Education and Recreation, **Mike Mahon**, '83 MSc, says he thinks Edmonton's history of successfully hosting international athletic events can only help the bid.

"We have a really strong sense of what it takes to host the Universiade. We have hosted other major events like

the Commonwealth Games and world athletics championships, so with all of that as experience, we'll be seen as a city and university that have the wherewithal to put it together," Mahon says. "We have two Canadian competitors in Calgary and Kamloops. They'll also have strong bids, so it's far from a slam dunk, but we feel really good about our particular bid."

This optimism was bolstered by the announcement that Montreal was withdrawing its bid to host the games, but there are a lot of hurdles to clear before any decision is reached. The contender cities will present their bids to Canadian Interuniversity Sport, which will select one city to advance to the International University Sport Federation (FISU), the governing body of the World University Games. FISU makes the final host-city selection, which will be announced in early 2007.

—Scott Lingley, '92 BA



bear country

One of the landmarks of the University of Alberta's newest faculty is a 30-year-old, hand-built, wooden bridge over a steep, winding ravine that runs through the Augustana campus in Camrose.

Crossing the bridge for the first time is a rite of passage for second-year Augustana students moving into the senior residences in the autumn; for fourth-year students it is a point of departure as they lug their belongings the other way in the spring. It is a meeting place and a platform for marriage proposals, tearful breakups, shared confidences, and much, much laughter. It's known as Ollie's Bridge, and this fall, it's coming down.

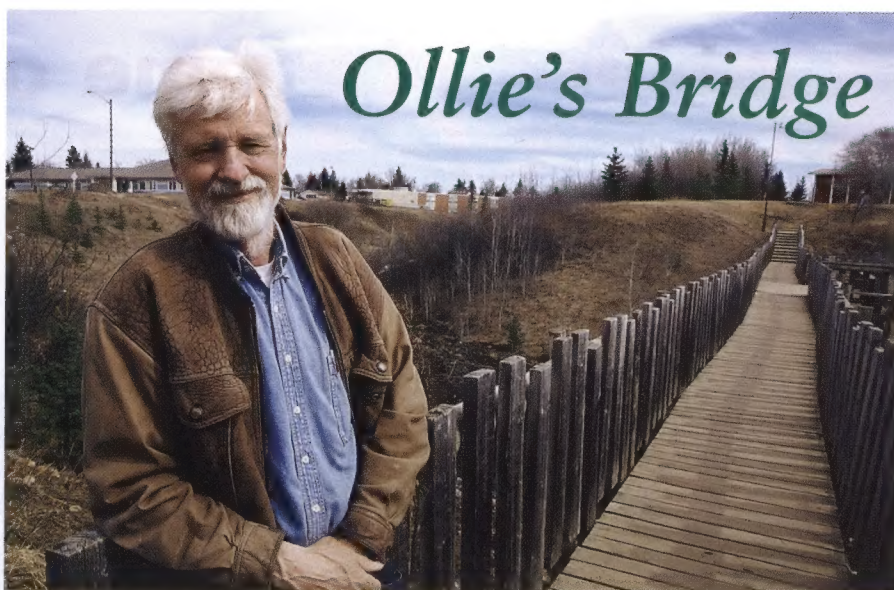
As the story goes, when Augustana built new residences for its senior students in 1975, there was a gap in funding for a bridge to cross the ravine. That's when Augustana professor emeritus and engineer Orlando (Ollie) Olson, then a professor of mathematics and physics, stepped in.

"It's a romantic thing to build a bridge," says Olson with a wistful smile. "All engineers love bridges. I wasn't a practising engineer, but here was my chance to build a bridge."

Olson's activities became a familiar sight to staff and students as he ran string across the ravine, carefully calculating and measuring size, load, capacity, resources, and materials.

Olson called AGT (the provincial telephone company) and talked them into letting him have some of the unwanted telephone poles they had from replacing overhead lines with ground lines. The load of poles they brought unceremoniously rolled down to the bottom of the ravine, but Olson says that was just a minor challenge compared to the rest.

"I needed to dig 28 five-foot holes for the uprights," says Olson. He talked AGT into digging about half of them, but they couldn't dig them all because of the terrain. Students and



Ollie's Bridge

Orlando (Ollie) Olson is proud of the bridge he built 30 years ago on what is now the Augustana Faculty campus in Camrose.

locals from the Camrose community helped Olson dig the remaining holes and erect the bridge.

"I don't remember ever asking for volunteers, but people were curious, and I seemed to always have help," he says.

Olson and his helpers hammered countless spikes and nails and built and carried the floor across section by section. In just over a month, Olson's bridge was a reality. He is not quite sure how much it cost in the end—he thinks perhaps \$1,500.

Mark Chytrcek, director of student and residence services, arrived in Augustana in 1982 and lived on campus for over 20 years. He has countless memories of shenanigans on Ollie's Bridge.

"In 1988, a year when there was just an awful lot of snow, the students built a massive snowball on the bridge to block the senior students' access to campus," recalls Chytrcek.

Chytrcek raised his children in the second-year residence buildings. His son John, a third-year biology student at Augustana, says the bridge is an integral part of his childhood memo-

ries. "It's a beautiful place to sit in the morning, especially in the spring and the autumn. Sometimes there is fog lying in the bottom of the ravine. It's so peaceful. The bridge looks and feels as though it belongs to a kind of older place where people didn't need all the bells and whistles."

When the University of Alberta facilities management team went to Augustana to look over the site and assess what needed to be done, Mark Chytrcek says they were taken aback by the bridge. "I asked them what was wrong, and they told me, 'Someone could jump off.' I smiled and said, 'Oh, lots of people jump off. I've jumped off.'"

Olson is very proud of his bridge, which needed only one repair in 30 years, but he says he doesn't mind that it will be dismantled. He is hopeful that the merger with the University of Alberta means that Augustana will prosper now, after many lean years.

"I hope they build a beautiful bridge," he muses as he looks over the site. "It's important, really."

—Zanne Cameron, '99 BA

Share your memories of Ollie's Bridge: If you have your own memories of Ollie's Bridge that you'd like to share, we'd love to hear them. Send them to the Alumni Association, 6th floor, General Services Building, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2H1, or to alumni@ualberta.ca.



2004-2005 ATHLETICS SEASON RECAP

Golden win for Golden Bears

It was a stellar year for U of A athletes.

The U of A Golden Bears hockey team finally broke the curse. After four straight years of entering the University Cup as the top seed only to fail to win the championship, the hockey Bears won the national title at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Telus University Cup in front of more than 10,000 fans at Rexall Place. The team was just 23 seconds away from losing the game to the University of Saskatchewan Huskies when Ben Thompson scored to tie the game and send it into overtime.

Thompson was the hero in overtime, as well, scoring halfway through the first overtime period.

With the win, the Golden Bears captured their record-setting 11th CIS title. It was their third in the past seven years.

The Bears volleyball team also brought home gold. Ranked number one in the country all season, they won their fourth national championship by a narrow margin against the Trinity Western Spartans. Nicholas Cundy was

named CIS player of the year. Cundy also received the Wilson Challenge Trophy as top U of A male athlete.

Other golden athletes included sprinter Neville Wright, who won the 60-metre dash and was part of the winning 4x200-meter relay team with Chris Clare, Rob Fisher, and Ryan Adams at the CIS championships in track and field.

Panda Erica Sharp won gold at the wrestling nationals, becoming the first female wrestler in CIS history to win national gold medals in all five years of eligibility.

Other U of A athletes who won medals at national championships included Panda Heidi Kulak, who won a silver in wrestling, and Anthony Kulak and Jarret Wall, who each won bronze medals in wrestling.

In track and field, Golden Bears runners Brian Roppelt (silver in 600 metres) and Antoine Boussombo (bronze in 300 metres and 60 metres) brought home medals. Pandas medal winners were Brynn Anderson and Sue Kupper, who tied for bronze in pole vault, Melissa These, bronze in shot put, and Jenilee Way, bronze in the weight throw.



Ben Thompson celebrates after scoring the game-winning goal (top); "We're number one!" CIS 2005 hockey champions

The Pandas hockey team enjoyed an undefeated streak of 110 games over the past few years—a CIS record across all sports. But the streak ended when the Pandas lost the national championship final to Wilfrid Laurier and settled for the silver medal.

Pandas hockey player Danielle Bourgeois finished her CIS career as the all-time leading scorer in CIS history. She was awarded, for the second consecutive year, the Bakewell Trophy as the U of A's top female athlete.

Other U of A teams finished their seasons in March:

The Pandas volleyball team clinched a berth in the national championships, where they lost to Calgary in the bronze-medal match.

Pandas basketball players narrowly missed securing a Canada West playoff spot.

The Bears basketball team became Canada West champions and earned a berth at the nationals, where they were defeated by the St. Francis Xavier X-Men.



bear country

Who says there's no such thing as *a free ride?*

The U of A's Environmental Coordination Office of Students (ECOS) launched a "bike library" in April that provides students with an environmentally friendly way to get around at virtually no cost. Students put down a \$20 deposit and borrow a bike for a month. After the month, the renter gets the \$20 deposit back as long as the bike is not damaged beyond regular wear and tear.

"We wanted to make this as accessible and budget-friendly as possible," says **Allison Lennie**, '04 BSc(EnvCn), director of ECOS during the 2004/05 academic year. "This is something anybody can do. With bicycles, we can target the students with lower income, living in residence, or new to the city, who need to get around and likely don't have a car."

The library fleet started with 11 bicycles, all donated by students or by campus security, which harvested abandoned bikes from around campus and handed them over to ECOS. From there, a group of student volunteers laboured over the winter to put the bikes in good working order.

"We have a core group of four volunteer bike mechanics who were willing and wanted to help out by fixing the bikes. They've been working on the bikes since January, coming in fairly regularly for a couple of hours a week."

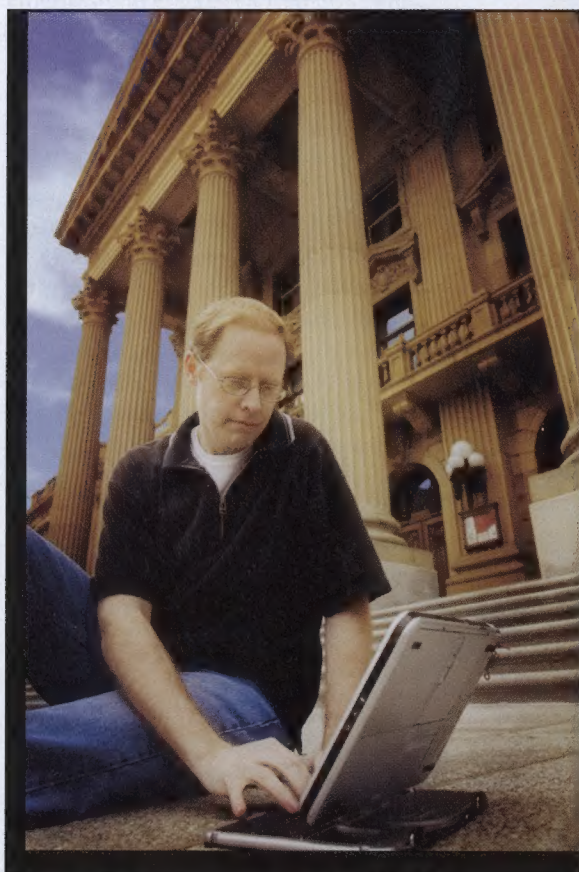
Initial response was enthusiastic. "It's been quite amazing for us," says Lennie. "A lot of people have said, 'This is just what I needed.' We hope this is a



stepping stone to our big plan of having a bike centre where people could learn how to take care of their own bikes."

If you'd like more information on the program, call the current director of ECOS, Preshani Maistry, at 492-7134 or e-mail ecos@su.ualberta.ca.

Photo: ECOS's Meagan Johnston encourages people to ride their bikes to work or school.



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Honorary degree recipients named

Ten notable people who have made important contributions to society will receive honorary degrees at the University's spring convocation on 7-10 June.

George Elliott Clarke, a renowned poet, novelist, playwright, screenwriter, and literary critic, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Letters on 7 June. He has made exceptional contributions to African-Canadian literary studies and his 11 books of poetry and drama have been published to critical acclaim.

Ronald Mannix, '72 BCom, well known for his business leadership and province-wide support of charitable actions and public initiatives, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws on 7 June. As one of his many philanthropic activities, Mannix is chair of the Carthy Foundation, which provided key support to the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Family Enterprise (CEFE) at the U of A School of Business.

José Saramago of Portugal, an eminent and prolific author who received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1998, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Letters on 8 June. He is well regarded as a journalist and commentator on the modern world and as a writer of poetry, drama, and fiction. His first novel appeared in 1947, and his 1982 novel *Memorial do convento* (*Baltasar and Blimunda*) launched his international reputation.

Peter and Doris Kule, outstanding philanthropists, visionaries, and community leaders, will receive a joint Honorary Doctor of Laws on 8 June. Together, they focus their time and generosity on supporting educational endeavours and their Ukrainian culture and community. Among their many contributions to post-secondary institutions, they endowed the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography at the U of A's Ukrainian Folklore Centre.



Jean Gray, '67 MD, one of Canada's outstanding medical educators and a strong advocate for clinical education and female physicians in medicine, will receive an Honorary Doctor

of Science on 9 June. She has pursued a wide range of research interests and is currently president of the Canadian Institute of Academic Medicine and the Canadian Association of Medical Education and chair of the Institute of the Gender and Health Advisory Board of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.



Edward (Ted) Harrison, '77 BEd, known for his colourful depictions of the land and people of the Yukon, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws on 9 June. His artwork is found in numerous private and public collections throughout the world, and

he is also an internationally recognized author and illustrator of children's books. In 1987 Harrison was awarded the Order of Canada for his contribution to Canadian culture.

Brothers Harry Hole, '44 BSc(Eng), and James F. Hole, '50 BSc(Eng), leading philanthropists who have made significant contributions to business, the arts, athletics, health, and education, will receive Honorary Doctors of Laws on 10 June. James Hole, who spearheaded a group of Edmontonians who jointly purchased the Edmonton Oilers hockey team in 1998, served as president of the Edmonton Eskimos Football Club and the Canadian Football League. Harry Hole has played a key role in the development of Edmonton Northlands and is the founding chairman of the Edmonton Police Foundation, a charitable organization that encourages community policing and partnerships between the public and law enforcement officers.



Alfred Wirth, a passionate supporter of education in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws on 10 June. He has contributed

significantly to the development of the internationally renowned Wirth Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies at the U of A.

Boost in provincial funding announced

The provincial government will be putting a lot of money into advanced education in the coming years. Bill 1, the Access to the Future Act, was tabled in the legislature in March. It includes the following planned investments from future unbudgeted surpluses:

- \$3-billion Access to the Future endowment, part of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund, which will generate income to advance post-secondary opportunities.
- \$1-billion expansion to the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund.
- \$500-million expansion to the Alberta Ingenuity Fund, which funds research in science and engineering.

The \$4.5-billion injection into funding for post-secondary education was welcome news for the U of A, and the news got better when the provincial government released details of its budget in April. Budget highlights include:

- Base operating grant increases for post-secondary institutions of 6 percent a year for the next three years, for a total increase of 18 percent (\$205 million).
- \$90 million to add 15,000 new spaces in Alberta's post-secondary institutions over the next three years.
- \$7.5-million increase in funding for scholarships, bursaries, and grants for 2005/06.
- \$250-million contribution to the Access to the Future endowment (part of Bill 1).

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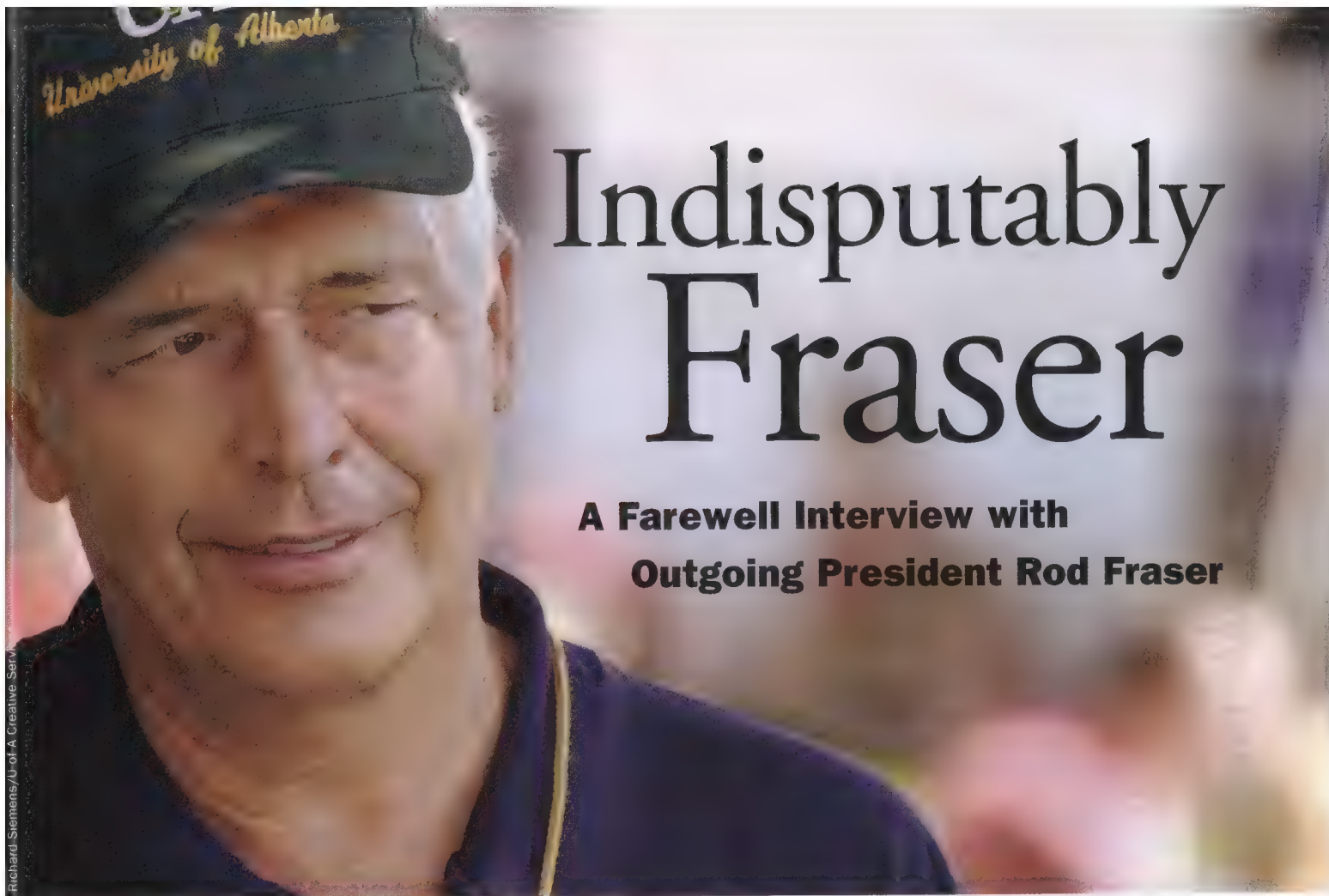
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Egypt – February
Greece – April
Holland/Belgium – April
Italy (Tuscany) – May
Japan – May
Italy (Lake District) – June
Danube River – June
Russia – June
Mediterranean Cruise – June
Adriatic Riviera – July
France (Provence) – September
Morocco – October
Italy (Tuscany) – October
Prague/Budapest – November
South Africa – November
India – November





Indisputably Fraser

**A Farewell Interview with
Outgoing President Rod Fraser**

As the end of his term as president of the University of Alberta approached, **Rod Fraser**, '61 BA, '63 MA, sat down with *New Trail* editor Roland Lines to talk about his decade in office.

Looking back over your decade in office, are there accomplishments that stand out for you?

There have to be at least three. The most fundamental is the faculty renewal program we launched in May 1995. Our target was to have 35 percent of our faculty retire in the five years ending in 2000. As I recall, by September 1995 we had the agreements of 35 percent of our faculty to retire. Most would be early retirements, but some would have retired anyway during those five years. What that allowed us to do, without a dime of special support from the government and during some pretty tough financial times, was to start hiring new faculty the next year. We hired as many as 81 new professors for September 1996. Each year since then we've hired between 80 and 100 new faculty. Today about 51 or 52 percent of all our faculty have been newly hired within the last 9½ years, which is almost twice the percentage of renewal at our peer universities in Canada. I think our ability to get the faculty renewal program going, because of the successful

work done by our provost, deans, and department chairs, that's likely what historians will see as a major issue.

The second accomplishment is building connections with our community, which sees its outcome in the success of the two fundraising campaigns. The first generated \$109 million in the five-year period ending in August 2000. The current campaign is already recording about \$255 million raised with a full three years to go. In the absence of matching programs from the government, we were able to have so many of our alumni from the community decide that this was their university and that they should be part of this big partnership to support its bold vision.

Another part of building connections with the community is that we have projects like the Community-University Partnership—22 community groups and the University together focused on how to target the least-advantaged families in our greater Edmonton community. It is just another example of partnering with the community, of this sense that so many people in the greater Edmonton community, in Alberta, and even beyond have of the University, that it is *their* university. It's not an institution apart; it's part of the community.

If there was a third thing, it would be internationalization. I so fervently believe we must give our students a significant international experience if they're to be as well

prepared as they should be to have successful lives and careers in this global world in which we live. If young university students don't have an understanding of the complexity of the world, they won't do as well to ensure that basic peace and world security that internationalization brings. We've been able to make tremendous strides in connecting with Mexico and with Japan and China. In my own judgement, we still have a long way to go to ensure that our students have the confidence that they understand—or at least know where they can quickly get an understanding of—the major disparate parts of our world.

When you first took over the presidency, you identified two key areas facing the University. One was improving the learning environment and the other was breaking down the barriers between disciplines. Do you still believe that those were the critical areas?

I think so, and I think we've been more successful at the latter. As we've undertaken this massive faculty renewal program, the old definitions of what was the subject matter of a given department or given academic discipline have become much less demarcated. For example, part of the case that won the National Institute for Nanotechnology for this university was that we had been able to overcome so many of the barriers. We are able to cross discipline boundaries between the natural sciences, engineering, and the life sciences. The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Sciences, a major priority for the University right now, is another example of breaking down those interdisciplinary boundaries.

Concerning the quality of the learning environment for undergraduates, I'd say it still remains one of our biggest challenges. It's an enormous challenge because of the tightness of the resources that support the undergraduate learning environment. While our overall budget has gone from \$540 million to \$1.1 billion in 10 years, the provincial operating grant, which is the basic support for the learning environment, has fallen a bit in inflation-adjusted terms; in per student terms it has gone down very sharply—until this latest budget. But I think there are other things we need to do if we're going to move more closely to what I see as the fundamental attribute we've had as a university since we started: that we are in the business of educating knowledgeable and responsible citi-

Reaching out to the community

In working to lend the strengths of the University to help the greater community, Rod Fraser has been carrying on a tradition established by the University's first president, Henry Marshall Tory. One great success in the area of community partnering is the Community-University Partnership (CUP) for the Study of Children, Youth, and Families, which was formed in July 2000 to try to bridge the gap between research, practice, and policy. Through CUP, the U of A works with community groups—including service organizations, school boards, and government agencies—to provide easier access to information affecting families and youth. The partnership allows the University's researchers to more easily bring their expertise to real programs and practices in the community.

zens, the leaders of tomorrow. If that is a core competency, we've got to assure ourselves that we've got the requisite teaching teams to lead students down the pathways to discovery. So there are two challenges: the first on the resource-base side, and the second, not unrelated, concerns our ability to field the kinds of professors in sufficient numbers to give interesting, challenging, and comprehensive programs.

You've often challenged the provincial government to increase its investment in post-secondary education. Are you encouraged by the most recent provincial budget? Do you think your message has finally been heard?

About five or six years ago, we began to see that to change the situation with provincial funding we had to move our case in a much more comprehensive way beyond Edmonton into small-town, rural Alberta. We had to be able to connect with MLAs across the province—not just the ministers, not just the premier. We had to be able to connect with the mayors, the reeves, the city councillors, the leadership in the schools, and of course our alumni and the parents of our students. Step by step we had been able to build up the substantive case for major reinvestment in Alberta's universities, but we had to get that case to the parents of

our students, to the neighbours of our students, and to the friends of our students. We had to move this thing much more comprehensively and systematically to Albertans, to the voters and the taxpayers, the people who actually influence MLAs and in turn the ministers.

We started on that process knowing it was not going to happen overnight. The throne speech of February 2004 was, for me, the breakthrough event. It laid out the four pillars for the future of Alberta over the next 20 years: leading in learning, including world-class universities; unleashing innovation, based as it is on excellence in research and development; preparing Albertans to be more successful in a global world, which goes back to the points I made earlier about our responsibilities to educate knowledgeable, responsible citizens; and quality of life issues, especially with respect to the disadvantaged, which we of course address through the Community-University Partnership I mentioned earlier.

It was a major breakthrough to have this fundamental role for universities set out in these four pillars. Then the



Speaking at the J. Gordon Kaplan Awards for Excellence in Research, March 2005; greeting staff during the President's Picnic, August 2003.

throne speech for this year had major funding announcements: the establishment of the \$3 billion endowment fund; the target of almost doubling the number of funded university places in 20 years; and of course the top-up of the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research and the Alberta Ingenuity Fund. The budget that came along in April added to all that good news with the actual flow of monies to fill the gap that had been created by the previous lack of funding. Since then there have been additional announcements, such as the Health Sciences Ambulatory Learning Centre, which is a massive but absolutely fundamental project for educating our health professionals to be part of a multidisciplinary team.

Tuition costs are obviously a concern for students and their parents, many of whom are alumni. Do you think the University is coming into a stage where it can better address concerns about rising tuition costs?

Keeping in mind what goes on in the well-developed world, where students and their families usually pay about 25 to 40 percent of the cost of going to university—we are at the low end of that range, at about 26 percent of our operating budget—to me the critical challenge is how to ensure that the children who come from the least-advantaged families in our communities are not deterred from coming to university.

In that context, three things come to mind. First, going back 10 years we made the decision to allocate substantially more monies out of our operating budget to provide for scholarships and bursaries. This took us from spending about \$7 million a year 10 years ago to now spending over \$57 million of the operating budget on this support. Second, in our fundraising campaigns, our alumni and benefactors were most responsive to our appeals for schol-

arship and bursary monies. Third, I'd say that the provincial government, in response to the concerns of the University's senior officers, the Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association, have consistently been doing a strong job in adding to the monies for scholarships and bursaries and introducing what I think is Canada's very best loan remission scheme. The situation is not perfect in some senses, but if one is focused on the least advantaged, we've probably come a long way.

To get to the heart of your question, against that background the challenge is: if we've got students sitting in class sizes of 400, what's the right thing to do if we had additional monies? Is the right thing to reduce tuition fees, or is the right thing to add more courses, more classes, and more potential for interaction of a student with a faculty member or a tutor. My experience suggests that if we are confident that we've handled the bulk of the problems associated with not deterring students from the least-advantaged families, then the best thing we can do for young people is make sure that the quality of their education is such that when they leave here they will lead satisfied, productive lives. I compare it to the world in which I first began teaching back in 1965. In my first classes I would have 20 or 25 students, and in that situation I could personally mark their term papers and personally interact with the students and have a discussion about how they might improve their thinking apparatus and their writing.

If I had the money that would begin to close the gap on the learning environment you find in many of the really good universities in the United States, it would mean our students would have that much more supportive an environment, both in the classrooms and outside the class-

rooms. Our young people are competing with people who are educated in countries around the world, and the resources that are going into universities in so many other countries are dramatically greater than what we're doing in Canada. I think we kid ourselves if we really think we can be as productive as a nation and make the kinds of contributions we should be making to the broad peace and security of the world unless we've given our students absolutely the best education.

You also made it known at the start of your term that you were going to be looking for help from your fellow U of A graduates in achieving the goals that you had set. Do you think that the University's alumni have shown a commitment to help?

Tremendously. Against a background of so many alumni thinking the provincial government did it all in resource-revenue-rich Alberta, we've been able to put the case for support out there and so many of our alumni have responded generously. Between the two campaigns—the campaign from 1995 to 2000 and the campaign that's going on at the current time—to raise over \$400 million to date is just a tremendous compliment to the many alumni who were asked and responded to that call to action.

It is well known that you have a vision for the University of Alberta to be indisputably recognized as one of Canada's finest universities and among a handful of the world's best. How close do you think that goal is, or do you think it's already been reached?

Indisputable recognition—I don't think it's there. Our mayor was down in Toronto recently explaining to Torontonians that Alberta has two major cities of about 1 million people each. Yes, he said, there is Calgary, but there is also the capital city, called Edmonton. That's brought a lot of joking comment, but I think it is unfortunately the case that so many people in Canada know about Calgary and they know about the University of Alberta, and they just assume that the University of Alberta is in Calgary. I think this issue of raising the profile of the University of Alberta, including the city in which it's located, is still a challenge to us.

Another aspect of indisputable recognition where we have not succeeded is in *Maclean's* magazine, which stead-

National Institute for Nanotechnology

During his term as president, Rod Fraser worked to develop partnerships with government and private companies that would benefit the U of A and the greater community, particularly in the area of research. He played an integral role in Edmonton and the U of A being chosen as the site of the \$120-million National Institute for Nanotechnology (NINT), which is a partnership between the University of Alberta, the governments of Alberta and Canada, and the National Research Council.

A multi-disciplinary institution involving researchers in physics, chemistry, engineering, biology, informatics, pharmacy, and medicine, NINT was established in 2001. Construction of an outstanding building to house the institute is almost complete, and it promises to be one of the world's most technologically advanced research facilities. The institute will attract a core of the best minds in a field that is expected to revolutionize everything from computing and communications to medicine, energy, and manufacturing.

fastly continues to ignore the huge high-school grade inflation that's occurred in Ontario and to almost the same extent in British Columbia. In Alberta, we're still graduating about 18 to 20 percent of high-school students with an 80 percent average or better; in Ontario that number is closer to 50 percent, and in British Columbia it's somewhere between 40 and 50 percent. In the meantime, whenever international tests are done of the math, science, and reading abilities of students, Alberta students come number one in reading, number three in mathematics, and number three in science. Alberta high-school students perform extraordinarily well, but if *Maclean's* just takes in raw, unadjusted averages, Alberta doesn't seem to do as well. So we don't have indisputable recognition there.

To cut to the heart of the issue, I think we provide a learning environment that you could arguably say is one of the top two or three in Canada. Here I'm taking evidence from the 3M Teaching Fellowships—we now lead Canada by a substantial margin in the number of our professors who have been awarded 3Ms—and we are one of only three universities that have won two Canadian Teaching Professor of the Year Awards. And if there was a university that was going to beat us out on that teaching front, it might not be one of the biggest universities that would be judged our competitors on the research front.

On that research front, our profs are about number three now in terms of the aggregate dollars they win in support of research. Interestingly, if you take it on a per faculty member basis, I think we are

still in third spot, but the two universities that jump above us are not the two universities that are ahead of us in terms of aggregate. If you do an averaging out of where you stand on aggregate research dollars and where you stand on dollars per faculty member, we probably come out number one on the research side.

In the world at large, we've got some evidence that says we're pushing the top 50. We're not yet in the top 35, but boy, do we have tremendous momentum for getting there.

It's been a personal mission of yours to expand the University of Alberta's reach internationally, and you've taken the opportunity to visit U of A alumni living

throughout the world. What insight have those meetings given you into the relationship between those alumni and the University?

The first thing I would say is that so many of our University of Alberta alumni leave the greater Edmonton area. As a university, we have indeed sent our alumni into the four corners of the world. Yes, you could explain that in terms of a lack of certain kinds of jobs and careers in Alberta, but what it's telling me is that we are educating bright young graduates who are competitive with the best throughout the world.

Second, while I've been in many countries in the last 10¹/₂ years, we have primarily had the focus that we started with, which is to reinforce the footprint in Europe. That's especially in central Europe, including our Ukrainian studies program, although we also established a school of Italian study in Cortona in this period, led by our then Dean of Arts Patricia Clements. The other two imperatives we have are to go down the Rocky Mountains into the United States and Mexico and to go over the Pacific into China and Japan.

What insight has that given me through the eyes of our alumni? Well, of course the alumni that we have in Mexico or China or Japan are ecstatic that their university sees the importance of making this big leap across the Pacific into China and Japan, or south into Mexico.

When I have a chance at convocation to talk to each of our students, however briefly, and ask them what they are doing next year, it never ceases to amaze me how many of our graduates are planning to go into the Spanish-speaking world of Mexico and Central and South America. So many others are going over to Japan—yes to teach English, but also to learn Japanese or perfect their Japanese—or into China to teach English and at the same time to learn Mandarin. These students have presumably been thinking about their careers, and have been thinking, “Gee, maybe NAFTA means something. Maybe Mexico really is important to Canada and the United States and I should learn more about it” or, “China is a big economy. Maybe its culture is something I should know a lot more about, so let me get over there.”

A legacy of learning

At his installation as University president in 1995, Rod Fraser said that to make the University of Alberta one of Canada's best universities, “we must work together to create an optimal learning environment ... that facilitates the development of the whole person.” Part of developing the whole person, believes Fraser, is giving students an international experience.

In recognition of Fraser's belief in the importance of an international learning experience and to commemorate his presidency, University alumni and friends and family of Rod and Judith Fraser, '63 BA, are establishing an endowment to fund the Rod and Judith Fraser International Undergraduate Learning Award.

The award will be given to a third- or fourth-year U of A undergraduate to assist him or her to study abroad at one of the universities with which the U of A has a formal exchange agreement. The goal is to create 10 awards of \$5,000 each.

Has the office of the president been different from your expectations? Have there been challenges that you didn't anticipate?

From the start I had a sense that if the University of Alberta was going to position itself to be a world-renowned university, as our first president set out as our challenge, we had to set a bold vision for ourselves. In addition, we had to generate the resources to allow our students and staff members to develop to their full potential. It was hard to see generating those resources if I stayed on the home front. That was the knowledge I had when I came here—or at least an expectation—that I would be doing something that by and large is different from other presidents in Canada and much of the United States, that as president I simply must be externally focused. While I personally enjoyed teaching during my career and while I love the intellectual debate that goes on, I had to rely on the collegial environment of the university to do the internal collegial work. The academic leadership would come from the deans, the department chairs, our outstanding teachers, and our outstanding researchers. The president has to be focused on the issues of government relations, fundraising, internationalization, and strategic research partnerships.

I guess I thought I'd be more successful in encouraging some areas of the University to join the cause—to get on that call to action for everybody to be part of this. Certainly I have a scorecard that has some failures as well as successes on it.

What can you tell U of A alumni about your plans for the future?

I'm in the position where I complete my tour of duty on June 30th, and there will be a future there for me that as yet is unknown. My wife Judith and I—we met 43 years ago on this campus and we were married a year later—are going to help welcome into the world a second grandchild in Quebec City sometime towards the end of June. Then we will just spend a little bit of time at our cottage that we bought 25 years ago just north of Kingston. We will listen to the loons and the whippoorwills and watch the hummingbirds fly around getting their nectar from the flowers—smell the roses for a couple months. That's the plan.

Lessons about teaching

Recruiting outstanding professors can be a challenge, but the University is getting help

When University of Alberta Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein first arrived on campus two years ago, one of the things that most impressed him was the value placed on teaching. He cites the annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning as an example. This event, held at the beginning of each fall semester for the last decade, honours the achievements of outstanding professors and students.

While the University has much to celebrate when it comes to teaching—it leads the country with 23 prestigious 3M Teaching Awards—fiscal realities have affected the number of professors teaching on campus. A great irony of growth at the University of Alberta is that while cranes dot the skyline and new buildings are erected, the proportion of professors to students has declined over the years because of funding shortfalls. The Alberta government recently announced a remarkable reinvestment in post-secondary education—which will see 50 academic positions staffed that otherwise would not have been filled this year—but previous years of underfunding have left their mark.

In response to the shortfalls, the University has turned to other sources of funding for professorships and chairs as a strategy to increase the number and stature of professors teaching and conducting research on campus. National funding agencies and federal programs like the Canada Research Chairs program, which has created 86 professorships at the U of A, are one way of making up for a shortage of professors, but private individuals and companies are making a difference, too.

Doris and Peter Kule, for example, have established the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography with a personal gift of \$1 million. The chair's responsibility is to teach at the undergraduate and the graduate levels and to conduct research into contemporary Ukrainian culture.

When the Kules' gift was announced, its lasting impact was noted by Faculty of Arts Dean Daniel Woolf, who said the donation would "touch the lives of many professors and students for many years to come."

The Faculty of Arts has also received a \$900,000 gift from Larry Andrews, '70 BA, '71 LLB, and his wife Shannon Andrews, who created the Landrex Distinguished Professorship. This professorship is to be held by a senior faculty member whose academic energies are focused on community issues within the Alberta Capital Region.

Harvey Krahn, '83 PhD, a sociology professor, was named the first holder of the Landrex Distinguished Professorship. Krahn's research interests involve the sociology of work and education, social stratification, immigration and refugee studies, political sociology, and some aspects of criminology. His most sustained research focus has been on school-to-work transitions and the relationship between post-secondary education and employment outcomes. Krahn's expertise has been solicited by community, provincial, and federal government departments. He is acknowledged as an important mentor to a large number of graduate and undergraduate students, and to his colleagues.

The Landrex Distinguished Professorship is expected to be awarded four times at five-year intervals. Appointees may hold the position for one five-year,

non-renewable term. Each Landrex Distinguished Professor will receive research funding of approximately \$50,000 a year.

Amrhein says these types of contributions make a big difference by helping the University recruit the finest faculty members.

"When we are hiring professors, we hire from the top five percent," he said. "But when you are hiring for a fully endowed chair, you are able now to hire from the top one percent. The psychology of a university professor is that the prestige of being appointed to a named chair is important. Being one of a very small number is important in the recruitment and retention of academics."

As the University is able to recruit high-profile professors, it increases its ability to recruit their peers and high-calibre students who want to learn from those professors, adds Amrhein.

"With fully endowed positions, you end up with more professors, and that helps with all those things. It will help in recruiting graduate students and offering them the best educational experience."

The University is pursuing more professorships through Campaign 2008, the most ambitious university fundraising campaign in Western Canada. The Faculty of Nursing, for example, has identified the creation of two endowed research chairs as one of its top priorities. Sixty percent of all health care service is provided by nurses. It is important, therefore, to foster continued research into improving clinical nursing services in Alberta.

The Faculty of Nursing is presently seeking donations for the creation of a Clinical Nursing Research Chair. The main focus of this chair will be to con-



The creation of endowed chairs and professorships helps the University recruit more high-calibre professors.

duct research into the clinical problems of delivering timely and accessible patient care, while educating and enabling nurses to deliver research-based and proven practices while working in multidisciplinary health care teams.

A second nursing chair, the Public Health Research Chair, will take a more preventive approach to nursing. The chair's primary focus will be to encourage research that facilitates a global reorientation of health services and public health policies. In particular, it will conduct research into how communities and government can work together, better use technology, and educate all stakeholders to reduce disability and illness throughout the province and abroad.

The School of Business' fundraising campaign, "Building on Our Strengths, Investing in Our People," will help attract and retain exceptional faculty and students.

"This campaign is about renewal; about investing not in bricks and mortar but in people," says **Hugh Bolton**, '59 BA, who chairs the School of Business campaign.

New professors make enormous individual contributions to the students, the University and the economy, Amrhein notes. Each professor, on average, supervises an average of three graduate students and teaches 130 undergraduate students, offering a richer undergraduate experience with smaller classes, more sections, greater choice.

"It spells quality in a university education," Amrhein says.

In addition, the financial impact of each professor is substantial. On average, each attracts more than \$200,000 a year in research funding—much of it from outside the province. Those dollars travel through the economy, going toward everything from office supplies and books to microscopes and computers. The dollars also pay graduate and post-doctoral students who, in addition to researching and teaching, spend locally on everything from accommodation to recreation. Each professor's research supports five full- and part-time jobs. The professor's salary has a similar effect, indirectly supporting as many as four full-time jobs.

But the bottom line for Amrhein, and the University itself, is teaching and learning.

"Campaign 2008 is important in that it provides the funding to hire more professors and more senior, more accomplished professors, so together with student scholarships those are the two areas a campaign focuses on—human capital areas where institutions like ours will put in an enormous amount of effort," he says.

When teaching is the goal, some people feel a need to help out. Landrex Chair founder Andrews says the U of A was seminal in his life. "I was given support and encouragement by one of my professors at a very important point in my life. I've always had it in the back of my mind to give back to the University of Alberta, and this professorship seemed ideal. We want to leave our society in a better place than we found it—what better way to do this than through the funding of vital research in areas which directly affect our community?"

—Richard Cairney

Outstanding Students

Recipients of the 2005 Alumni Association Scholarships

Every year, the Alumni Association awards scholarships to outstanding students who have not only achieved high academic standings but are also active members of campus clubs, community organizations, and student government. *New Trail* spoke with the nine 2005 scholarship recipients to find out more about them, what leaders they admire, and their future goals.



Jeeshan Chowdhury, Graduate Studies
Alumni Advantage Scholarship–Graduate

“Ultimately I am a space nerd and I would like to be involved in space exploration,” says Jeeshan Chowdhury. Part of the Canadian team that will participate in the European Space Agency’s student parabolic flight program in France this summer, Jeeshan will be analyzing the effect of zero gravity on eyesight. The findings could have some

very down-to-earth applications in treating eye diseases.

Jeeshan’s lifelong interest in space has to make room for his many other academic interests. He’s currently completing a combined MD/PhD, working in a multidisciplinary setting studying oncology and electrical and computing engineering. He is working on “lab on a chip” technology, which will take the laboratory tests researchers use and miniaturize and automate them so they’re easier to use in a clinic. Such technology would make it possible, for example, to do genetic testing on cancer patients and use the information to individualize their chemotherapy treatment.

Jeeshan says that his parents, who immigrated from Bangladesh 25 years ago, “instilled a strong appreciation for all that we have here in Canada and a strong sense of duty to be active citizens and give back.” Jeeshan has been very involved in student groups on campus and helped organize a fundraiser for a rural women’s hospital in Bangladesh. “The University’s support of its students is unparalleled in my opinion.”

Christopher Fung, Science

Alumni Advantage Scholarship–Undergraduate

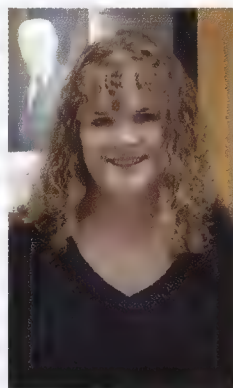
The leader Christopher Fung most admires is David Suzuki, not only for the way he raises awareness of environmental issues but also for following his own advice in living an environmentally friendly existence. With all that he is fitting into his days as a university undergraduate, Christopher himself sets a high standard of involvement and concern for his community.



Along with his demanding studies in the honours program in immunology and infection, Christopher is a member of the U of A track and field team, competing in long jump and triple jump, and he volunteers extensively on and off campus. “I like helping out wherever I can. I often volunteer for events outside my normal range.”

Christopher’s main volunteer commitment is with the Campus Food Bank, where he keeps the monthly statistics and as a team leader helps out the other volunteers. He also canvasses for the Alberta Heart and Stroke Foundation, helps in the radiology department of the U of A Hospital, and has judged debates and a science fair.

Christopher plans to study medicine and would prefer to do that at the U of A, which he describes as “a fantastic school” with “some exceptional teachers” who make studying enjoyable.



Kristy Walters, Arts

Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship

When she was just 13 years old, Kristy Walters decided on her career as she watched an episode of *7th Heaven* in which the main character counselled a troubled young man. “I knew that was exactly what I wanted to do.” Now a student in the honours program in psychology, Kristy plans to work in family counselling.

Volunteering with the Edmonton Distress Line and the Student Distress Centre on the U of A campus opened Kristy’s eyes to a world of crisis and reaffirmed her faith in humanity. “I learned just how strong and resilient people really are.” She was inspired to get involved in another crisis intervention program, *youthone.com* crisis chat, which uses Internet message boards and chat rooms to interact with young people in crisis.

Volunteering has given Kristy practical experience, reaffirmed her career choice, and presented her with a topic for her graduate studies research: adolescent girls who harm themselves through self-mutilation or eating disorders.

Acknowledging that she has learned a lot about how to be a successful student, Kristy also volunteers with the Undergraduate Psychology Association so she can pass on the knowledge and experience she's gained to other students. Supporting other students is "invaluable, and that is what keeps me motivated to work so hard."



Vivian Maghee, Dentistry

Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship

Ask Vivian Maghee why she decided to study dental hygiene, and she offers the surprising explanation "I had a passion for teeth." She hopes to turn that passion into a career helping people be proud of their smiles. For Vivian, passion is the key to getting things done. "Without passion, desirable goals cannot be achieved."

Vivian's goals are to take the excellent training she's received at the U of A and work as a dental hygienist in a clinic or in community health. She has already helped many people by taking part in the Department of Dentistry's "Open Wide" day, which offers free dental services to those less privileged, and by volunteering "in any manner possible" at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Vivian has also held various positions in the Dental Students' Association, most recently serving as the association's vice-president, a task that "has allowed me to be an active member of my education and to voice the opinions of my fellow peers as well as my own."

Vivian has been inspired by her parents, who have shown her what it means to be a leader and have helped her get to where she is today and launched her to a career helping others and spreading joy.

"Truly, a smile can make a person's day."



Karen Ridgway, Science

Alumni 75th Anniversary Scholarship

Although she is enjoying her honours program in chemistry, Karen Ridgway hopes to eventually follow the example of her physician mother and become a doctor. She sees it as the best way to help others.

A future studying health is fitting for someone who embraces life the way Karen does. Her volunteer commitments include helping at the Norwood Continuing Care Centre, serving as president of a student-run organization called All Schools United, which

helps network Christian groups in high schools, and serving breakfast at a church in the inner city.

She still has time to bike, hike, ski, and snowboard, and if you see someone making snow angels in Quad, that could be Karen burning off some stress.

Karen admits that she has lots of idealism left—"I want to change the world!"—and she hopes to be an advocate for people who are suffering. She holds Jesus Christ as a role model. "He loved people, healed them, and gave them hope." She has also been inspired by U of A alumna **Helen Huston**, '49 BSc, '51 MD, '85 LLD (Honorary), a medical doctor who worked in Nepal helping thousands of people who didn't have access to any other medical care.



Julie Snowdon, Law

Alumni Council Scholarship—Undergraduate

Criminal law, says Julie Snowdon, is by far the most interesting area of law, and it is the area she will concentrate on when she practises. Her interest has been strengthened by intense volunteer involvement in Student Legal Services (SLS), which provides legal assistance to people in poverty who, unable to afford a lawyer and not qualifying for Legal

Aid, would otherwise have to fend for themselves in the criminal justice system.

"I learned things that I could not have learned just by going to class. By the time I graduate I will have run somewhere between 15 and 20 trials, so I learned a tremendous amount about trial procedure, courtroom etiquette, and professional responsibility. . . . I think that SLS serves such an important function."

Julie has also helped out the community by putting her theatre skills to good use through her involvement in the Law Show, a cabaret-like production that raises money for the KARA Family Support Centre. If there is any time left after all her activities, Julie works on writing plays and stays active with various sports.

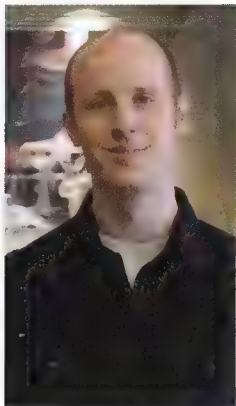
Julie sees the important attribute of a leader as being able to inspire others by giving them a sense of worth. "I think it's important for a leader to be able to motivate people in a positive way, to encourage people by making them feel good about themselves and what they're doing."

Colin Cherry, Graduate Studies

Alumni Council Scholarship—Graduate

Using a computer to translate documents should enable us to share information across the globe and improve communication, but machines have a hard time understanding the nuances of languages, so translations are often not quite right.

Colin Cherry, working toward a PhD in computing science, is studying ways to use computers to translate documents from one language to another efficiently and



accurately. "Machine translation is a fantastic challenge," he says enthusiastically. "The technology has the potential to do a lot of good; if we got it to be both affordable and reliable, it could really improve the ability of everyday people to communicate across the globe."

Colin does some communicating of the more standard variety in his work with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Outreach. He mentored at WP Wagner high

school and has judged science fairs. "I have a lot of fun working with enthusiastic, young scientists."

Originally from Nova Scotia, Colin says that when he looked around the U of A "I was completely blown away by the resources available here and the friendly atmosphere."

For Colin, his work and fun all comes down to communicating. "The best leaders have a real gift for understanding and communicating with a bunch of different types of people," he says. If machine translation gets as efficient as Colin would like it to, maybe computers will help with that communicating.



Carolyn Nowry, Science

Maimie S. Simpson Scholarship

"It gives me a great feeling when I am able to help people when they are going through a tough time in their lives," says Carolyn Nowry, who volunteers as a counsellor with the Student Distress Centre and the Edmonton Distress Line.

Along with her counselling work, she sits as a student-at-large on the Academic Affairs Board and is the vice-president of the U of A's Science

Undergraduate Society. Getting involved in volunteering, in residence, and in athletics (she swims with the U of A Masters Swim Club) brought Carolyn to what she likes best about the U of A: "the great people I have met." Helping others is her main motivation for volunteering, which she sees as "a great way to get involved and make a difference in the community."

Nowry's compassion for others will serve her well in her future career in health sciences. Currently completing her honours program in physiology, Carolyn plans to become a medical doctor and to "continue to give back to the global community through various volunteering opportunities abroad."

In all her aspirations, Carolyn will strive to be a leader who can make things happen. "I think a leader needs to be motivated, passionate, and organized," she says, "and able to work well with a team."



Aileen Iloreta, Science

Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship

Aileen Iloreta keeps up an impressive range of volunteer activities. She helps at the U of A Hospital, the Boyle McAuley Health Centre, and with the WISEST Choices conferences, where she has been a lab instructor working with junior-high students exploring future study and career options.

"I wanted to share my knowledge and enthusiasm for post-secondary education and particularly science with girls at their most influential age," she explains. "I love being around girls at that age because they still have the energy, excitement, and enthusiasm that is often lost the longer you stay in school!"

Aileen is still plenty energetic and enthusiastic about her studies. Set to begin her fourth year studying medical laboratory science, she plans to study medicine and specialize in pathology. "My dad is a doctor, my mom is a nurse, and I have always been interested in medicine as a career. I am especially interested in pathology because it is a fascinating and challenging specialty, essential to the diagnosis of many diseases."

"If and when I get into medicine, I know that I will have the opportunity to be exposed to other areas, so I don't want to say that I am only interested in pathology. Who knows what will happen in the next few years?"

Alumni Association Scholarships

Alumni 75th Anniversary Scholarship (\$3,000)

Endowed by the Alumni Association, this scholarship was established in 1983 to celebrate the University's 75th birthday.

Alumni Council Scholarships (\$2,500)

These scholarships, one awarded to a graduate student and one to an undergraduate student, are financed by the individual contributions made by current Alumni Council members.

Alumni Advantage Scholarships (\$2,500)

The Alumni Association supports these awards, which were created in 1999 for the children and grandchildren of U of A alumni. One is awarded to a graduate student, and one to an undergraduate.

Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship (\$2,500)

The Alumni Association endows this award, which was established in honour of Reginald Lister for his dedication as superintendent of student residences.

Maimie S. Simpson Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)

Endowed by the Alumni Association, this award recognizes Maimie S. Simpson for her long service as the University's Dean of Women.

The Faculty of Arts in Review

WORK *of* ARTS

Spring 2005



THINKING SPACE

Exploring the
Social Dimension



FACULTY OF
ARTS

Greetings *from the Dean*

From the research and fine art produced by our world-class faculty and students to the contributions made to community organizations, government, and business by our alumni, the work of people in the Arts community is phenomenal. As one of my predecessors, Patricia Clements, once wrote, "graduates of the liberal arts have great impact on our lives—cultural, social, and economic. If you were to pull all of Alberta's BAs off the job for a week, newspapers wouldn't be written, governments would shut down, schools would close." I take great pride in the fact that our graduates are vital to the cultural and economic viability of Canadian society. It's time we celebrated and shared the importance of this work in all of its variety.

Here in the Faculty of Arts, we continue with our work of providing broad, foundational Arts education to our students, who now number nearly 6000. With 14 departments and several interdisciplinary programs, the University of Alberta's Faculty of Arts offers one of the most expansive and diverse educational experiences in the country. Our faculty continues to win prestigious teaching awards and research grants. Our students are sought after in organizations and graduate schools all over Canada and the world.

This spring, we are celebrating the retirements of several long-time members of the Faculty, all of whom have given students and colleagues remarkable service over the years. There is one member, though, I would like to single out: Patricia Clements. I have already referred to her enthusiasm for the Arts, but her contributions go much further. She has served this University since 1970 as a professor in the English department, and for 10 years was Dean of the Faculty of Arts. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a past president of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the founder and director of the internationally recognized Orlando Project. Her career, in many ways, encompasses the full range of academic work in the Arts—teaching, research, and service to our communities.

Enjoy our first edition of *Work of Arts: The Faculty of Arts in Review*.

DANIEL WOOLF, BA, DPhil, FRHistS, FSA

Professor, Department of History & Classics, and Dean, Faculty of Arts

WORK of ARTS

The Faculty of Arts in Review
Volume 1 Issue 1 Spring 2005

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FACULTY OF
 ARTS

In This Issue

Work of Arts: The Faculty of Arts in Review is a new vehicle for any member of the Faculty of Arts community, including students, faculty, staff, and alumni, to showcase their work. It promises to be a provocative mix of features, poetry, fiction, and art. *Work of Arts* will be published twice a year: in May and November.

The publication will focus on the place of the Arts in our lives—Arts on campus, in the community, and in history. The inaugural issue looks at the place of the Arts through the lens of space. Our cover story explores the theory of space, both concrete and virtual, through the work of sociologist Rob Shields. A Fine Arts alumnus, Ryan McCourt, incorporates his thoughts on space and spatial connections into steel sculptures, many of them life-sized. Tara Taylor's musings on the place of cultural identity in our lives won her the 2004 Mactaggart Award, \$10,000 towards travel costs—exploring space—anywhere in the world.

We are proud to feature one of the Faculty's long-term retiring professors, Larry McKill. His story is set along the continuum of growth at the University and within the Faculty over the past 44 years. Alumnus Frank Peers has kept his memories of his space and time at the Faculty of Arts alive, and translated these memories into a meaningful and tangible gift to today's students. Our look at the Centre for Ethnomusicology highlights the space the Centre creates for music and cultural collaboration.

Scattered throughout the issue you will see a variety of poems and art submitted by our faculty and students. We hope you enjoy this small glimpse of an amazing pool of talent and thought.

Our Faculty is huge and diverse. Our publication aims to bring a piece of the Faculty of Arts to you, our reader, with each issue. We hope it will reinforce the place—and space—of the Arts in your life.

KATHY CLASSEN

Editor and Director of External Relations

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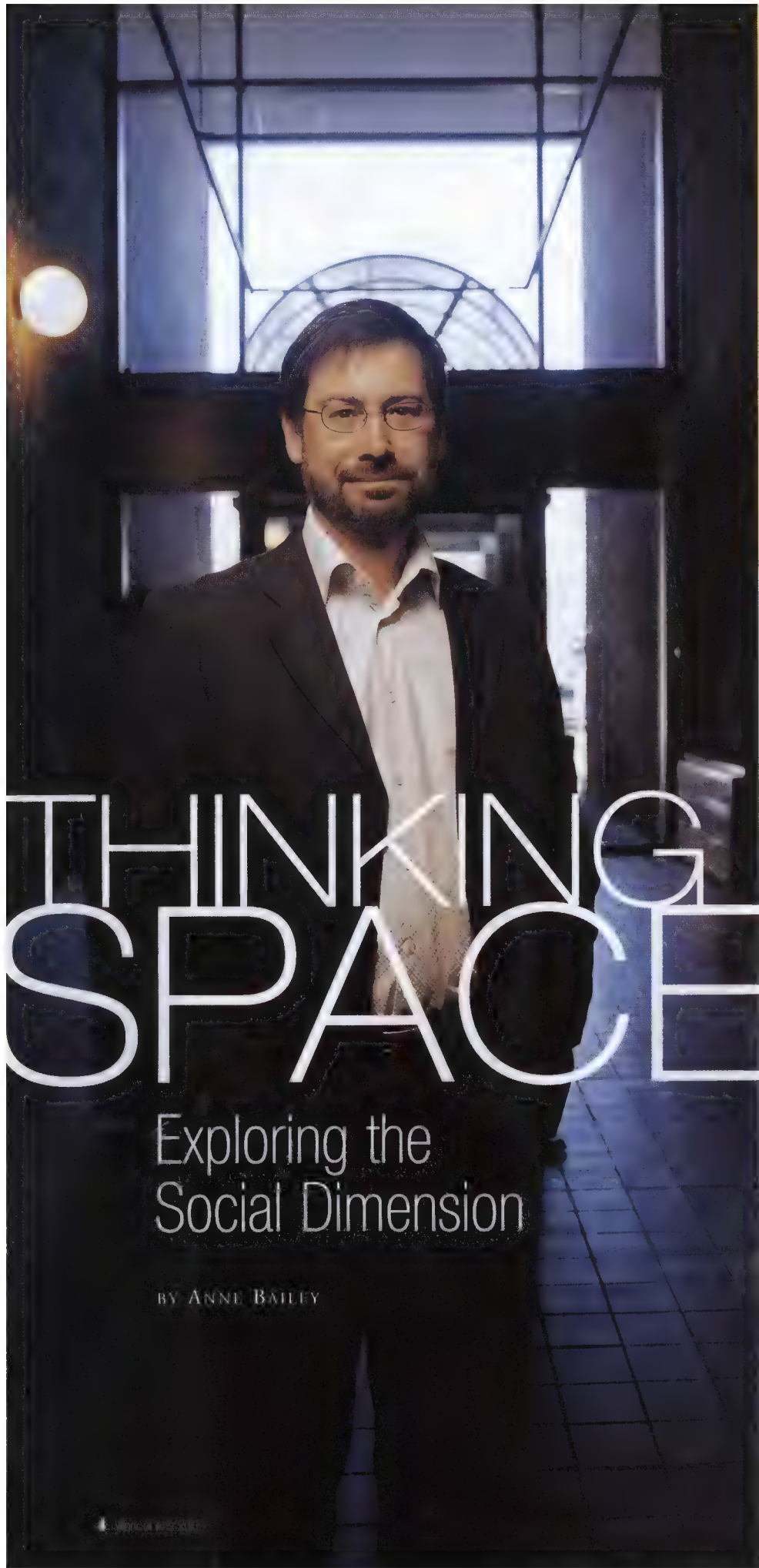


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Always interested in the form and design of space, Rob Shields, newly appointed Henry Marshall Tory Chair and Professor in the Departments of Sociology and Art and Design, began his academic career studying architecture, but it was when he began to ask such questions as Who uses buildings? and What do they think of them? that his life took a turn into the social sciences and eventually to sociology.

Most of us would probably connect the exploration of space to physicists, astronomers, and astronauts on the one hand, or architects, planners, and geographers on the other. At first glance, few of us would think of space as a subject of sociological inquiry. After all, isn't sociology interested in human society and its various functions?

To see space as an object of social, rather than only scientific inquiry, we need to become aware of the underlying structures of everyday life that are so pervasive that we are often unconscious of them. As Shields says, concepts of space are integral to "the real fabric of how people live their lives" (*Places on the Margins*, 7). One of the aims of his work is to help us see that space is not only a location or container of human culture but is itself a cultural object. The spaces we live in—our homes or key local landmarks such as Edmonton's Churchill Square or Calgary's Olympic Plaza—are sites of all kinds of human culture, from the minutia of table manners to the public spectacle of centennial celebrations. The physical shape and location of our homes and our cities determine to a large degree how we move and relate to others in our families and communities. If a family of four shares only one bathroom, careful planning of the morning routine is needed.

Space, and our experience of it, however, is not only physical. Shields contends that it is also always to some degree imaginary, or "virtual." Spaces may be defined by walls,

streets, or national borders, but they are also conceived of and formed by the ideas, myths, and stereotypes associated with them. As Shields points out in his first book, *Places on the Margins*, spaces like Niagara Falls or the Canadian North have a cultural shape that far exceeds the physical. Depending upon the historical moment in which these spaces are perceived or experienced, they change shape. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, for instance, Niagara Falls was connected to the sublime—a popular philosophical and aesthetic concept at the time.

Travellers from all over Europe who had both the means and ability to travel through fairly difficult terrain were rewarded by the sublime—an overwhelming feeling of God's grandeur and their own insignificance in the face of the Falls. As more and more people were able to make the trip, the Falls changed shape, from being "pure" nature to being "pure" schtick. Although we might think that the Falls have only recently been corrupted by 20th century marketing and hype, from the very beginning of human contact with the Falls, their physical shape has been understood through cultural values, myths, and imaginings. Separating the physical from the social is, as Shields says, impossible.

At the beginning of the 21st century, the notion of space as something more than physical—indeed something that may not be physical at all—is becoming more apparent with the prevalence of various technologies that create virtual realities. In his latest book, *The Virtual*, Shields takes his exploration of space a step forward. He examines the virtual spaces that are created through technology such as telephone lines, the Internet, video cams, and so forth. These spaces of human contact are obviously intangible, rather than physical, and yet they are also obviously "real" spaces of human contact.

This digital, virtual reality is not different, says Shield, than the virtual conceptions we hold and have held in our memories and imaginations of all of the spaces we inhabit. Even when we enter a physical space, we enter a virtual space as well; we cannot experience or comprehend any space without the filter of memory

and consciousness. It is also, according to Shields, difficult to "imagine futures which are other than the way things are." How can the sociologist help in this process?

When the warp and weave of the fabric of our lives becomes visible to us, we are able to see more clearly the values, power structures, rituals, and myths at play even in the supposed "empty" spaces in which we circulate and live our lives. Then, Shields argues, we have a better understanding of where we, as individuals and as communities, stand in relation to those

competing discourses, values, and power systems and how we are defined by them. Armed with this understanding of the virtual spaces in which we exist, we can be empowered to engage, resist and alter them, and perhaps then imagine a future which is just a little bit different than the way things are today.

But, is the alteration only virtual? Can we make use of our understanding of space as virtual in more than intellectual or philosophical ways? Can we use it to plan, build, and develop the concrete, physical spaces in which we live our lives or will in the future? According to Shields, one of the most important things to remember is that spaces, both concrete and virtual, exist in relation to other spaces and cultural forces, and that any innovative spatial change must involve a change in those relations.

Any urban neighbourhood, for example, has a stereotyped "reputation" that evolves out of various factors: its location, the age, size and condition of the houses, the economic class of its inhabitants, the quality of its schools, etc. Even years after a neighbourhood has been "cleaned up" or "yuppified," an old reputation can linger and degrade real estate values. Then, suddenly it seems, there is a change and the

price of homes in the area jumps. Such a change, Shields suggests, is possible not because of significant changes in the concrete spaces of the neighbourhood—although home renovations definitely play a part—but because of the neighbourhood's shift in its spatial, economic, and social relation to the city as a whole. Sociological analysis and understanding of these spatial relations have the potential to enable quicker and more innovative urban renewal in all of our cities, something of significant political concern at the moment.

As a new member of U of A's community, Rob Shields is already working to help the Faculty of Arts understand its own spatial relationship with the rest of campus and with Edmonton, Alberta, and Canada. The Faculty is in the process of assessing its existing space, measuring and accounting for each square inch. At the same time, the Faculty is also becoming aware of how these concrete spaces have a virtual shape in relation to the rest of campus, a shape which, Shields says, both "enables and disables" the work that is done there. Any future change to the existing space of the Arts will not only involve the construction of new buildings or renovations of old ones, contends Shields, but also "the transformation of the public's conceptions of the Arts in relation to other

kinds of knowledge and other post-secondary institutions."

Campus buildings, urban neighbourhoods, Niagara Falls: all of these spaces have stories that transform them into places of human significance. Analyzing this significance through sociological methods and research, Rob Shields and others working

in his field show how space is much more than a physical entity. It is also a set of intangible social and cultural forces that intertwine, creating a reality which is more than a sum of its parts. As Frank Lloyd Wright once observed, "the space within becomes the reality of the building."

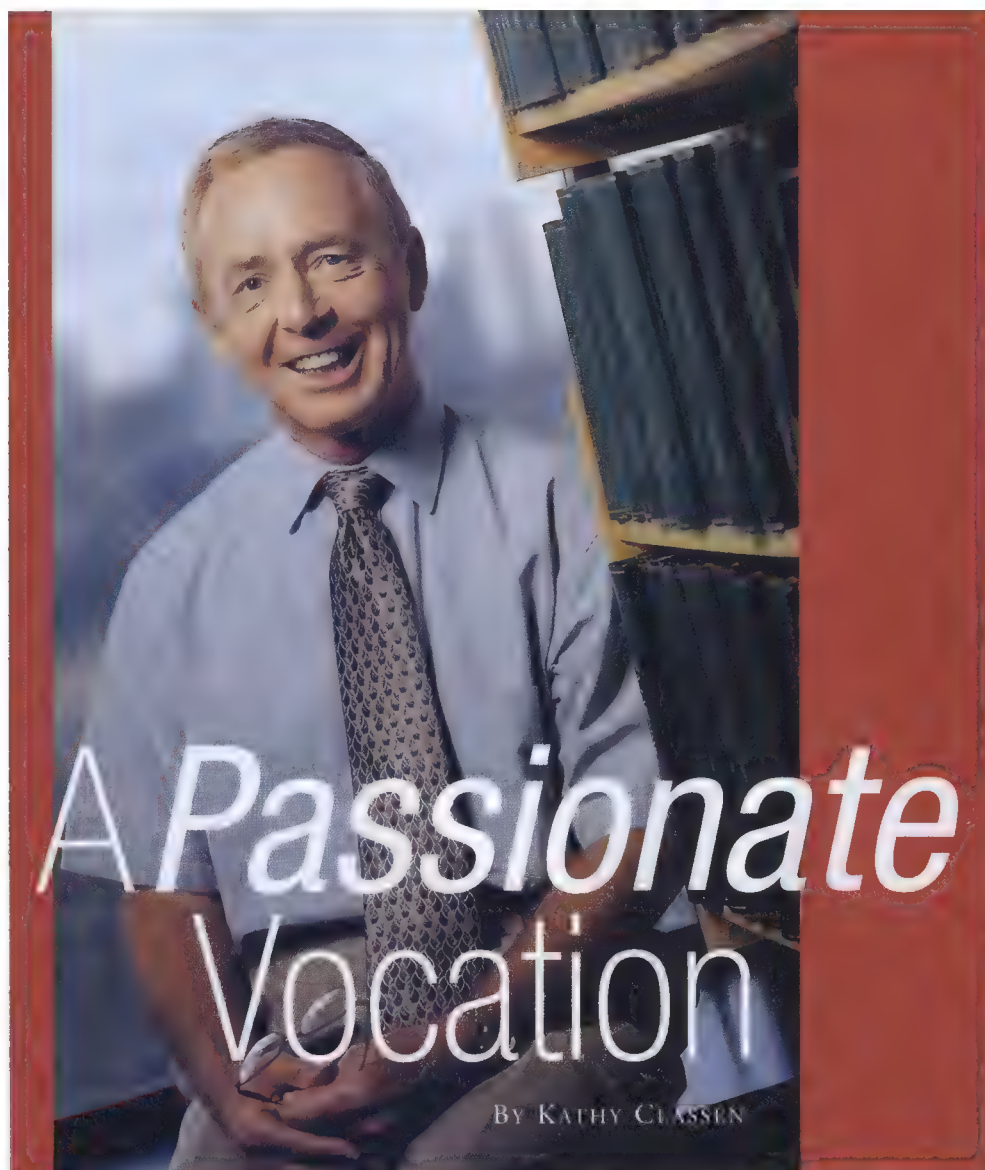


Pool, Etching, Mezzotint, Chine Colle, 11.5" x 11.5", 2003



Tent in Pool, Etching, Mezzotint, Chine Colle, 11.5" x 11.5", 2003

Both "Pool" and "Tent in Pool" are part of a larger series of prints exploring the themes of mutation and transformation. At the beginning of his project, Sean Caulfield, Canada Research Chair in Printmaking, made drawings of industrial objects and spaces in and around Edmonton. Then he researched literary works, such as Dante's *Inferno*, with a focus upon metamorphosis. Then, by combining his field research, reading, and personal memories, he created these two prints which transform and twist familiar spaces and objects into images which are entirely different and surprising.



In 1961, as a 17-year-old U of A undergrad from Lethbridge, Larry McKill began a remarkable relationship with the University of Alberta.

From those early years as a resident on campus, to his lengthy term as a professor of English beginning in 1970, and his years of service to the Faculty in various other capacities, McKill has clung to a personal vision of the value of education. He has maintained a contagious enthusiasm for the U of A, even in the final months before his retirement as Associate Dean, Student Programs, on July 1, 2005.

During his early days at the U of A, McKill lived in Assiniboia Hall. In those days, breakfast was served in Athabasca Hall on a first-come, first-served basis, with the back-up of fresh baked cinnamon buns and coffee available in the Tuck Shop or in an old Tudor style building in the

center of campus now occupied by CAB. The evening meal was an entirely different experience, where a tie and jacket were required dress, grace was said in Latin, and tea or coffee were from silver-service. For all the formality, though, McKill remembers the fierce pace imposed to finish the first serving: with 12 at a table, the whole table had to eat quickly to obtain any available "seconds."

The campus of 1961 was markedly different from the U of A today. Student enrolment was just 10,000. There were relatively few buildings and lots of space in between these. Private homes stood where HUB and the University buildings east of it now sit. Room and board in the three student residences—Pembina,

Athabasca and Assiniboia—was a mere \$75 per month. Tuition was \$250 per year plus modest Students' Union fees.

Something that has remained constant, McKill notes, between 1961 and now is the gulf between the high school experience and expectations at University: "The gap between high school and University is immense: it took me until October of my third year to really figure out what education was about: reading more than required texts, doing more than 'homework,' exploring, engaging with the material we were studying." McKill sees students struggling with the same adjustments. He is acutely aware of the challenges many face—some successfully, others not so.

After three years at the University of Alberta, McKill moved to Waterloo Lutheran University where his career plans changed once he encountered the "most exciting English teacher possible." It was Flora Roy, Chair for 30 years, who turned McKill on to English, and cut through red tape to move him well beyond deadlines into the Honours program. Another professor at WLU, Nada Schultz, was the inspiration for McKill's specialization in Old English. She taught a "killer" course in Old English but one that changed his life. The program ended with a comprehensive three-hour test on the full historical spectrum of required courses: "It was a wonderful exercise in synthesizing the knowledge you had learned over the years."

McKill's sense of history as a living thing, and his awareness of how the ancient informs the modern, infuses his teaching. It is this perspective which brings Old English alive for his students and helps them find relevance in a now drastically changed language. Amanda Lim, in her final year of Honours English, can still recite some original lines of poetry she learned in her second year Old English class, with McKill (lacking a harp) tapping out the beat. She has a much greater understanding of how English has developed as a language, and is fascinated by the progression of our vocabulary over the centuries. (She also recalls McKill's gifts of baked goods for the students on some quiz days: "to sweeten the bitterness of the quiz," McKill would explain).

Garrett Epp, current Chair of the Department of English and Film Studies,

has always been impressed by the extraordinarily high student evaluations McKill received over the years, even from students he may have been failing. "He makes students want to continue, and to feel that they have learned something of value." For his excellence in teaching, McKill was honoured in 1992 with a Faculty of Arts teaching award.

"Our structures must be open to change—we can get better at what we do. It is the changes and commitment to change that make the University such an exciting workplace."

His skill with students led to his appointment as Associate Chair, Instruction, in the Department of English from 1996 to 2000, and as Associate Dean, Student Programs, in 2000. Both of these appointments were a "wonderful opportunity to make changes so that learning can go on in a better way." Good administrators, as good teachers, must be open to change, McKill believes: "Our structures must be open to change—we can get better at what we do. It is the changes and commitment to change that make the University such an exciting workplace."

It is as Associate Dean, Student Programs, that McKill has had the most effect on the overall student experience in the Faculty of Arts. He has tackled the growing issue of plagiarism head-on during his tenure. Dean Woolf believes that Arts Faculty professors know they have the full support of administration in any question of plagiarism; McKill has set and enforced very clear guidelines in this area. Clear rules and follow-through are essential when dealing with issues of plagiarism and cheating on campus. Compassion with the affected student is just as important. He explains decisions clearly, and aims to help students learn from their experience. Ultimately, it comes down to being fair to all.

McKill has also targeted the issue of the growing number of students in the Faculty and across campus for whom English is not

a first language. How can the University help the students whose English skills are not up to par find their way? He has proposed that these students be permitted to count their native language in fulfillment of the BA's requirement of one course in a language other than English. By granting this credit, ESL students can free up a space in their course load to pursue the remedial help in English they need. The first step is in place: students who receive their secondary or postsecondary education in a language other than English (LOE) now have an automatic waiver of the requirement. The next phase is to grant the waiver to students who can demonstrate language proficiency through tests administered on campus.

McKill's desire to help ESL students extends to all students who are keen on pursuing their education. In 2002, Darrell Reid wrote a letter of petition to McKill, requesting acceptance into the Faculty of Arts. Reid had earlier been denied acceptance based on his previous academic performance. McKill reviewed the letter, and granted admission to the former student to study political science and economics. Reid achieved standing on the Dean's Honours List that year, and went on to an Executive MBA program in the Faculty of Business where he has maintained a GPA of 4.0 over three terms. Recently, Reid wrote to McKill to let him know that he had made the right decision: "I wanted you to know that your acceptance of my petition has had a major impact on the direction of my career. I truly appreciate the fact that you gave me a second chance academically, and just wanted you to know that I have made the most of it." A result like that is what makes McKill's work so worthwhile and rewarding.

It is a mark of the man that, at the end of a lifetime of service to the University and to the Faculty of Arts, his thoughts on departure are focused not on his own achievements but on students. "I don't see the joy of being at the University in students now," says McKill, who notes that the students today work hard to cover the cost of their education and try to finish it as quickly as possible. "I would like to say to them—refresh yourself, slow down, enjoy your University years. An education is not just an accumulation of credits." ♦



Faculty Retirements

The active custodial role of interpretation, explanation, and clarification is something very special... That's one reason we teach... languages—and something about cultures and civilizations... because if universities fail to do that, and we begin to forget the variety and richness of what human beings have created, we will simply lose a vast proportion of what we need to know in order to understand what humankind really is.

~ NEIL RUDENSTINE, President Emeritus, Harvard University

Our thanks to the following faculty who will be retiring this year:

DOUGLAS BARBOUR
English & Film Studies

PATRICIA CLEMENTS
English & Film Studies

NEIL FIERTEL
Art & Design

JORGE FRASCARA
Art & Design

GREG HOLLINGSHEAD
English & Film Studies

PAUL JOHNSTON
Political Science

JURIS LEJNIEKS
Political Science

ROD MACLEOD
History & Classics

LARRY MCKILL
English & Film Studies

URI MARGOLIN
Modern Languages & Cultural Studies

REGULA QURESHI
Music

MICHAEL ROEDER
Music

SHMUEL SHARIR
Economics

JETSKE SYBESMA
Art & Design

TERRENCE VEEMAN
Economics

ROBERT WILCOCKS
Modern Languages & Cultural Studies

Sculpting a Career

BY JEFFREY STERR

For many University students, choosing academic programs and deciding on a career often means pursuing trends, seeking financial stability, and fulfilling parental and social expectations.

But for full-time sculptor Ryan McCourt (1997 BFA, Sculpture and Photography; 1999 MFA, Sculpture), pursuing his education and career has never been about any of that.

Twelve years ago, as a first-year archaeology student, McCourt asked himself questions that led to his decision to pursue a career as an artist. "While archaeologists are digging up the treasures of the ancients, who's making artifacts for future generations to admire? Will

those future people look back favourably on the same great cultures that we do, and what will their judgment be of the culture of our time? What art are we leaving behind?"

Inspired to leave something of note behind, McCourt changed his major. But he concedes that becoming a sculptor hasn't been just about trying to affect other people's lives, nor has it solely been a noble attempt at deepening cultural activity. Sculpting has also been, he says, a matter of personal fulfillment, individual freedom, and self-definition.

"Altruism aside," he explains, "making sculpture is intellectually stimulating work, requiring creativity and critical thinking." He adds, "Making art is also generally a solitary endeavour, and whether I choose to work independently or collaboratively, I'm always my own boss, and I work on my own schedule."

Oxy-acetylene torches, chop saws, and MIG welders are essential to his

creations; McCourt uses them as tools to sculpt mild steel and various other metals—from cast iron to stainless steel and even brass—into public and private artwork, selling them to make a living.

McCourt says his current sculptures are developing along two paths: architectural and figurative. His architectural works are literal references to everyday objects such as musical instruments, buildings, machines, and furniture, which are blended and abstracted, resulting in ambiguous, multi-referential works. His figurative works, on the other hand, refer to traditional sculpture from a variety of cultures. Some small-scaled works, for example, have been inspired by Hindu sculpture, which represent the elephant-headed Ganesha, he says.

McCourt's larger works have taken the form of the head and shoulders bust, presenting figurative frontal features changing dramatically to abstraction when viewed from the rear. He adds that his largest works have been life-sized figures representing archetypal characters, with a



Dreamer, Ryan McCourt, 2003

current work in progress that will eventually represent a horse and mounted rider. These figurative works, often consisting of industrial parts that he scavenges, retain some of the character of their former industrial usage.

Yet at the same time, these industrial elements have been transformed into something uniquely human: "My works tend to be on a scale that relates to the human figure, which makes the sculptures approachable, even interactive. Invariably with larger pieces, people tend to be impressed by the size and weight of the sculptures and amount of labour that obviously went into them."

Reflecting on his educational experience at the U of A, McCourt recalls his thesis exhibition as especially memorable. During the installation of the show, he had to drive a forklift and a few tons' worth of sculptures through HUB mall one Sunday afternoon, sawing through a carpeted wheelchair ramp to get close enough to the gallery. Then he had to drop the sculptures into the gallery through the window. When he was done, he had to make it appear as though none of it had ever happened.

Over the years, McCourt has come to realize the value of his BFA and MFA despite the fact that he could have taken a different route.

"These degrees represent important developmental periods of intense study, experimentation, and focus on the nature of art. Anyone can be an artist, with or without a degree, but to me, my MFA signifies the serious commitment and level of accomplishment that anyone holding a master's degree in any field brings to their profession."

"A Modern Outlook," McCourt's latest commissioned piece, was recently installed at the Edmonton head office of All Weather Windows (18550-118A Ave) (see photo). His North Edmonton Sculpture Workshop is located at 10549-116 St. and various works are on virtual display at www.telusplanet.net/public/rmccourt.

A Modern Outlook, Ryan McCourt, 2004



Briefs on Distinguished Visitors

Each year, the office of the Vice-President (Academic) funds the campus visits of distinguished artists and thinkers. Any official "Distinguished Visitor" must be of such significant reputation that his or her visit will be of interest to students and faculty across campus as well as to the general public. Distinguished Visitors engage with both the campus and general community in many different forums throughout their time at the University. During the 2004/2005 academic term, the Faculty of Arts hosted dozens of guest lecturers, musicians, and artists; the following were funded by the VP's Distinguished Visitor Fund.

J. Hillis Miller

Modern Languages & Cultural Studies, October 16-29, 2004

A Distinguished Research Professor at the University of California, Irvine, J. Hillis Miller is one of the most important literary critics and theorists of the late 20th century. Miller gave five public lectures at the U of A on the theme of literature and globalization. He was also the keynote speaker of a three-day conference inspired by his visit called "Legacies of Theory," which attracted scholars from all over Canada and the U.S. Each event was filled beyond capacity. However, for some, the one-on-one advice and collegial exchange gained during one of the many office hours held by J. Hillis Miller was the most important consequence of his visit.

Sharon Pollock

Drama, Oct 26-Dec 12, 2004

One of Canada's pre-eminent playwrights, Sharon Pollock brought her theatrical expertise to the Drama Department this past fall. A 10-day run of her latest play, *Moving Pictures*, in which Pollock played the leading role, was the highlight of her visit. In the weeks before the play opened, Pollock rehearsed daily with student actors and visited many classes to discuss issues related to playwrighting, directing, feminism,

and theatre advocacy in Canada. Pollock conducted interviews with the media, held a post-play discussion and reception with the general public, and led a panel with leading scholars of her work. Rarely are students treated to such an opportunity to interact and learn from an artist's full repertoire of skills as they were during Sharon Pollock's visit.

Catherine M. Soussloff

Art & Design, March 14-18, 2005

Catherine Soussloff is an internationally renowned art historian who has written three seminal books on how identity is represented in art. Professor of the History of Art & Visual Culture at the University of California, Santa Cruz, she gave lectures and seminars on campus and at the Edmonton Art Gallery about Jewish identity in modern art and visual representations of modern subjectivity in pre-World War I Vienna. Catherine Soussloff's work draws upon interdisciplinary research, and students in disciplines ranging from Art & Design, Human Ecology, Philosophy, History, and Art Education attended her presentations.

Gauri Viswanathan

English & Film Studies, March 18-24, 2005

While at the U of A, Columbia

University Professor of English and Comparative Literature Gauri Viswanathan met with graduate students and faculty and gave three public lectures focused on the role played by religion in modernity. Viswanathan's groundbreaking assessment of religious conversion as a political force is particularly timely in a period of world history in which various religious fundamentalisms are in conflict. In her studies of India, most particularly in her award-winning *Outside the Fold: Conversion, Modernity and Belief*

(1999), Gauri Viswanathan demonstrates how religious conversion, although often represented as a highly personal act, has very powerful political ramifications—most obviously as an act of resistance against colonializing forces.

Jean-Marie Londeix

Music, February 1-9, 2005

Often acclaimed as "the Paganini of the Saxophone," Jean-Marie Londeix is well-known in Edmonton, and throughout the world, as a concert artist, teacher, lecturer, and author. One of the first wind instrumentalists to perform full recitals, Londeix has performed more than 600 times as a soloist and produced 19 major recordings. While on campus, Londeix not only performed in concert, but also conducted several master classes with high school, undergraduate, and graduate students. He also gave a public lecture at the Muttart Hall on "Today's Musical Aesthetics."

Shaykh Mohamed el-Helbawy

Music, Centre for Ethnomusicology, March 7-17, 2005

Shaykh Mohamed el-Helbawy is an Egyptian master of the traditional Arabo-Islamic vocal arts and a highly versatile artist. Besides being widely acclaimed in the arts of Qu'ranic recitation (tajwid) and the call to prayer

(adhan), he also excels in the venerable art of religious hymnody (inshad dini). During his 10-day visit, Shaykh Mohamed el-Helbawy was involved in lecture-demonstrations, classroom visits, workshops, performances, and daily rehearsals, all open to the public. He also visited local religious communities across the city and performed a public concert with the Inshad Ensemble in Convocation Hall.

Other Guest Lecturers

Christopher Browning

Frank Porter Graham Professor of History University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

As a historian of the Holocaust, Christopher Browning has spent a career pondering troubling questions: "How did human beings do these things? How can we explain such extreme behaviour?" On March 13, 2005, he shared some of his insights in the inaugural Toby & Saul Reichert Holocaust Lecture in the Faculty of Arts. Entitled "Explaining Holocaust Perpetrators," Browning's lecture dealt with the thorny problems faced by all historians of the Holocaust, but most especially those, like himself, who attempt to understand the psycho-social motivations of mass murderers.

In contrast to historians and writers who examine the Holocaust from the perspective of the victims, Browning has taken the sometimes controversial stance of looking at it from the perspective of the perpetrators. His work has detailed the thoughts and actions of people from every rank of German society during the Second World War, from the ordinary policeman to the highest political official. "It is very important to

realize that the Holocaust was a man-made event, not a natural catastrophe like the recent tsunami," Browning explains.

Since the 1992 publication of *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*, Browning's books have received international attention and added enormously to knowledge of the Holocaust. Winner of the 2004 National Jewish Book Award in the Holocaust category, his most recent work, *The Origins of the Final Solution*, "is by far the most incisive analysis of the decisions that gave rise to the annihilation of the Jews in Nazi Europe," according to Raul Hilberg, author of *The Destruction of the Jews*. In March 2004, the *New York Times Literary Supplement* reported that "it is difficult to see this work being superseded in the foreseeable future."

Jack Corbett

2004 Canada-U.S. Fulbright Distinguished Chair

The Faculty of Arts has been pleased to welcome Jack Corbett to the Department of Political Science as a Canada-U.S. Fulbright Distinguished Chair. Each year, the Fulbright Program, a joint initiative of the Canadian and U.S. governments, promotes cross-border research and exchange by funding scholars whose work is relevant to both Canadian and U.S. studies. Jack Corbett comes to the University of Alberta from Portland State University, where he is a professor in the College of Urban and Public Affairs. For over 30 years, he has taught Canadian politics and public policy and has been involved in research, teaching, and service in the international arena. During his year in Edmonton, Corbett has been examining resource management in Canada's First Nations, as part of a larger project on aboriginal communities and resource

management in Mexico, Canada, and the U.S.

Jack Corbett also holds faculty status at the Oaxaca Institute of Technology, a federally-funded science and engineering university in southern Mexico. There he has spent the last 10 years assisting with the development of graduate programs and facilitating international exchange programs. Because of his work, more than 150 Mexican students and faculty have participated in specialized visits to Oregon, and over 400 Americans and Canadians have travelled to Mexico.

James DeFelice

Mary Mooney Distinguished Artists' Fund

James DeFelice, retired Professor of Drama, returned to direct *The Beaux' Stratagem* at Studio Theatre. The play ran from March 31- April 9, 2005 in the Timms Theatre.

This Restoration-period play provided a unique opportunity for the acting company to expand their craft in classical theatre. It also provided Studio Theatre audiences with a rare opportunity to see George Farquhar's 1707 comedy brought to life. *The Beaux' Stratagem* was one of the last plays of the Restoration. DeFelice respected the integrity of the time and the place of the play as much as possible. His approach with the company brought them into the period of the early 1700s; politics, geography, art, music, and social fabric of the time were all explored.

The Director's visit was funded through the Mary Mooney Distinguished Artists' Fund. The Shaw Cable Distinguished Visiting Artists' Endowment Fund was created by a \$100,000 gift from Shaw Communications Inc. The Fund annually supports one or more Mary Mooney Distinguished Visiting Artists within the Department of Drama.

Destiny

BY SANDRA ELLERBECK

*Soporific abstruse presageful
emissary petrel
Amalgamation
ambiance euphony
inflections innuendo
indecipherable*

*word after word
randomly
c t e e
S a t r d*

*(word)
intact in meaning like our names
our selves
yet fails to find p u r p o s e
without place in schema*

*Hypothetical polysemous parody
signifies apotheosis
Celestial advertence adduced
numinous abalone
leitmotiv mendicant
embolden*

Sandra Ellerbeck is a student in Write 494 (Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry).

tangible gifts

BY JEFFREY STERR



When U of A alumnus Frank Peers (1936 BA, History; 1937 Diploma in Education; 1943 BEd) attended university in Alberta's drought-stricken 1930s, scholarship assistance was scarce.

One year in particular, he recalls, "the University insisted on cash payment of my tuition, even though my family, like many others, was waiting for our harvest to generate much needed income." His father resorted to borrowing money from welfare farmers to get Peers through his graduation year.

But after graduating from the U of A and working in Alberta's secondary school system for six years, Peers finally won a scholarship at the University of Toronto,

where he completed an MA in Political Science in 1948.

Knowing what scholarship funding can do for students, in September 2004 Peers donated \$126,000 to the Faculty of Arts, establishing twin Frank Peers Graduate Research Scholarships in the Departments of Political Science and History & Classics. He wanted to give back to the University that helped him succeed throughout his adult life, and assist future generations of students.

"Some students," Peers says, "are obviously bright enough to continue graduate studies but are unable to do so for financial reasons. So I'm very keen now that deserving students are able to continue their studies at the graduate level."

According to Dean of Arts Daniel Woolf, Peers's donation will have a large impact on students' lives. "Students who receive the scholarships are clearly going to go on to be either academic or community leaders of the future," Woolf says. "So this will be a very important part of their career preparation for whatever they do."

Peers's own life is an excellent example of what can be achieved. While earning his

On a Clear Path

Scholarships Make Education Possible

BY ANNE BAILEY



Hang Huynh (Psychology '05).

Winner of a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Award (2005), MacEachern Scholarship (2004), Scotiabank Bursary (2003), Jason Lang Scholarship (2001-2005), Arts & Sciences Division Scholarship (2002), and the Golden Key Award.

Several years ago, Hang Huynh's mother suffered a stroke. As she prayed for her mother's recovery, Huynh decided to change the direction of her life and find a way to make a difference in her mother's future. A high school dropout, she was convinced that she wasn't smart enough for university. But, she returned to school and discovered that she was wrong—very wrong.

After her mother's recovery, Huynh

quickly rose from high school dropout to academic powerhouse, earning a 4.0 average throughout her first three years in post-secondary education. She eventually found her perfect niche in the Faculty of Arts, studying neuro-psychology, where she studies brain injuries in stroke victims. She's won many scholarships and bursaries, all of which have made it possible for her to attend college and university, while also raising her six-year old daughter, Jasmine.

Huynh's is a remarkable story, not typical of most students. She has faced significant obstacles, but she has overcome them all. "This sounds corny," she says, "but when you love somebody, like I love my mother and daughter, love can motivate you to do anything."

MA at U of T, Peers began working for the CBC where he remained for over 15 years. He rose through the ranks to General Supervisor of Public Affairs and was involved in developing new broadcasting standards for radio and television. In 1963, he ended his career with CBC in Ottawa as Director of Information Programming, and then transformed his broadcasting experience into a fascinating academic career. He received his PhD specializing in Canadian broadcasting policy and went on to be one of our country's leading thinkers in this field.

For Woolf, donations like Peers's reveal the intimate connection that the Faculty's alumni in general seem to have with their Arts experience at the U of A.

"Anytime I go to an alumni event," Woolf says, "I'm struck by the chronological spread of attendees, between those who've graduated last year and those who graduated 60 years ago; it's one of the most wonderful things. They all still feel in many ways very connected to this place where their adult lives began."

Scholarships have also played a crucial role. Without them, financing her education would have been much more difficult, if not impossible.

Thanks to the support she's received, Huynh looks forward to a future full of possibilities. She may choose to head off to graduate school to continue her research or to become a psychologist. Or, she may choose medical school. Whatever the future holds, Huynh has already decided that she would like to give someone else the kind of support she has received from donors, who have created scholarships and bursaries for students.

"If ever I'm in a place where I'm comfortable," says Huynh, "I want to repay them by helping someone else. I really admire them for helping people they hardly know."

The University of Alberta recently launched Campaign 2008. Student scholarships are a top priority. In the Faculty of Arts, our campaign goal is to raise \$2.3 million in undergraduate and graduate scholarships so that we can continue to attract and support bright and accomplished students like Hang Huynh.

Ballad of the Brown Pill Bottle

BY ROBIN LIGHT

in the bathroom cupboard

among the jumble of 2 for 1 eyeliners

bags of bath salts

bottles of different shampoos and conditioners

in a small wicker basket shoved in the back left corner

is a pile of brown plastic pill bottles heaped together like a miniature lumberyard

when it's suggested that i throw them out i say

'no i'll do something with them someday' and think that

no of course you don't understand

you don't know how to count

my calendar of ups and downs a journal of my moods read by dates

numbers of refills

one day i will build a pyramid seventy stories tall

tourists will come peer and take pictures

just making out my shape through the brown round walls

shadows flickering across the room as i lay my head down and sleep

Robin Light is a student in Write 494 (Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry). She will graduate in 2005 with a BA (Honours) in Native Studies.

LUNCHBYTHEBOOKS

brings Arts Faculty Downtown

BY JEFFREY STERR



A block away from the scene that inspired her talk, University of Alberta historian Frances Swyripa delivered the final Lunch by the Books session of the season, "Jasper Avenue: The Road to Edmonton's Growth and Identity" on March 3, 2005.

Examining war protests and funeral processions, festive parades and royal visits over the last 125 years, Swyripa identifies Jasper Avenue as a key symbol in Edmontonians' imaginations, rituals, and ceremonies. "Special events [held on Jasper Avenue] reinforce the notion of Edmonton and its citizens as an imagined community, built around community values and experiences," she says.

"They and their attendant traditions then form a link between Edmonton as one imagined community and a series of other imagined communities that are provincial, national, and international in scope. Thus, as a physical site, the avenue itself acquires symbolic importance."

Klondike Days and long-gone Santa Claus parades, Swyripa says, are events that express Edmonton's organized and officially encouraged or sanctioned identity. Events like the Vietnam and Iraq war demonstrations, by contrast, reflect grassroots ideals that may have, to some extent, opposed the mainstream. "From the perspective of protestors' agendas," says Swyripa, "it's imperative that they go down Jasper Avenue to assert their claim to public space at its most symbolic."

Each of us probably imagines Edmonton's downtown region - its boundaries and landmarks - differently, and Swyripa notes that the area is being challenged on several fronts by suburban shopping malls and Whyte Avenue in Old Strathcona.

Yet her sense is that Jasper Avenue will remain the psychological centre of the city, as its most visible public space. It is a place "where Edmontonians can gather publicly to mourn, to celebrate, to entertain and be entertained, to protest, to remember."

Swyripa's session concluded the inaugural Lunch by the Books 2004-05 program, a partnership between the Edmonton Public Library, Stanley A. Milner Branch, and the Faculty of Arts. The event began in October 2004 as a free, interactive noon-hour learning series for the general public, focusing on topics ranging from economics and music to drama and politics.

Valerie McNiven, the assistant manager of EPL's Centre for Reading and the Arts, is already looking forward to next season. "I would like to see the program have a permanent fit in the library," she said. "The variety and immediacy of the topics were great. Those who attended were fascinated by the talks, and the questions from the public showed their keen interest."

Other LUNCHBYTHEBOOKS presentations included:

Celebrating Edmonton: Who Writes Her Story?

October 2004, Heather Zwicker, Department of English & Film Studies.

Zwicker's session focused on Edmonton as a literary and historical subject, paying particular attention to the many new books which have been published on the occasion of Edmonton's 100th anniversary.

What Was Modern Art?

November 2004, Steven Harris, Department of Art & Design.

Harris talked about some of the reasons behind the formal and ethical choices made by artists in the modern industrial era.

How Should Alberta Cope With Provincial Government Surpluses?

December 2004, Melville McMillan, Department of Economics.

McMillan discussed Alberta's enviable position as Canada's first debt-free province, looking at how the government might spend the money wisely and also plan for a future without resource revenues.

The ABCs of Symphony Strings: The Function of Violins in a Symphony Orchestra

January 2005, Guillaume Tardif, Department of Music.

Tardif outlined the roles and functions of this largest—and often most prominent—section of the orchestra from the standpoint of composers, audiences, other musicians, managers, conductors, and violinists themselves.

On the Fringe, In the Mainstream: Edmonton's Live Theatre Scene

February 2005, Alex Hawkins, Department of Drama.

Hawkins addressed how "mainstream" and "fringe" theatre have constantly intermingled over the years in Edmonton.

For information on the 2005-06 Lunch by the Books sessions, check the Faculty of Arts website.

The Spaces Between the Tents

The Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology BY ZANNE CAMERON

Jessica Keyes has recently been spending hours cataloguing over 2000 classic jazz albums, a gift to the Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology by local jazz collector Kellogg Wilson.

“Until the collection is digitized, I have to really restrict access,” says Keyes, Masters student in Ethnomusicology.

Nonetheless, she relents and lets two local jazz musicians fondle out-of-print classics from jazz greats such as Ornette Coleman, Bill Evans and Miles Davis, like kids in a candy store.

The candy store, in this case, is the Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology, housed in the Old Arts Building at the University of Alberta. In addition to this newest donation of jazz, the Centre houses a significant collection of all genres of 20th-century folk music, from Woody Guthrie to aboriginal chants to American jazz. The heart of its collection to date is Moses Asch's complete collection of Folkways recordings donated to the University in 1985. Folkways itself was a company committed to recording the rich variety of sounds and music of people from around the world. Continuing that work, the Centre for Ethnomusicology is actively working to preserve and record indigenous music of all cultures.

Although housed on a university campus, the Centre aims to be a place where the conventional barriers between scholar, musician, and devoted listener have broken down. While graduate students, like Jessica Keyes, have found a home for their research at the Centre, amateur collectors like Wilson also find the Centre a place where they can contribute.

Wilson, who commonly uses words and phrases such as “wild impulse” and “unbridled lust” when he talks of his love of jazz, felt it was important to him that his collection be housed in the

Centre. “I felt that my collection would complement the Asch collection,” he says, because “jazz is an amazing language.” Although an academic, his interest in music is not professional nor is it guided by research methods. He freely admits that “the underlying philosophy of my collection is that I did not have one.”

Yet, Wilson's collection, which covers 40 years of jazz evolution, is remarkable. The albums are in excellent condition—evidence of the kind of care that a true audiophile takes not to scratch the vinyl. But the record covers are dog-eared and worn, a sign that these recordings have been listened to many times, the liner notes read and pondered.

Like the local jazz musicians who dropped in on Keyes while she was cataloguing and begged for a look at Wilson's collection, many visitors of the Centre will be interested in just having the chance to hear hard-to-find recordings. But academic researchers of the Centre may also have a more anthropological interest in the collection. Its scope reflects the particularity of the mind of Kellogg Wilson—an American and a scholar of computing science and linguistics. In a way, the collection is itself an artifact, telling the life of the scholar and collector. It also tells the story of American society, voiced in part through jazz. According to Regula Qureshi, Director of the Centre, jazz music is “the quintessential American music. That alone makes Wilson's collection important. Jazz opens the door to an amazing part of human life in the 20th century. Kellogg Wilson's life is itself a part of that history.”

The incorporation of Wilson's collection into the Centre's archives is just one example of the breakdown of traditional barriers between community and university that is encouraged by the Centre. Another example can be found in the Centre's ongoing project to digitize its collections so that anyone can access it from anywhere in the world. Undoubtedly, this digitized archive will become an important research tool, but it will also be a digital space where musicians and audiences can come together to share and fuse musical interests and styles.

From Qureshi's perspective, a Centre with this sort of global, multicultural vision has the perfect home in Edmonton. A city full of diverse cultures, languages, and traditions, it celebrates all kinds of music in hundreds of concerts and annual festivals. Edmonton's Heritage Days, Qureshi says, serves as a wonderful example of how culture is both preserved and recreated here in Edmonton. “Folk music is the music of families, of communities, religions, and ethnic groups. It is used to try to preserve culture, to make sure that it is passed down to new generations. But it is also the terrain for meeting other cultures. In the spaces between the tents,” she remarks, “there is new music. There is fusion, a negotiation between cultures.”

Likewise, the role of the Centre is to facilitate fusions of all sorts: between musical genres, between academics and amateurs, between Edmonton and the rest of the world. The Centre itself has become a sort of “space between the tents” where audio culture is collected, remixed, and recreated on an ongoing basis.

The Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology has found its permanent home in the U of A's signature Old Arts building. It will open its doors to the public in May with demonstrations of the music, digital technology, art, and historical artifacts that make up the Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology.



Be()longing

BY TARA TAYLOR

They are dancing on blades that cannot cut. Long grass waves with the wind around their ankles, and the heat and light of many bonfires makes everyone red. Strong voices sing out in a myriad of languages, all telling stories. The adults gather around the largest fire and share their meal while the children romp in the farm fields, learning new games. Their delighted laughter needs no translation. The only boundaries here are the cattle fences at the edges of the land. Tonight, they are all the same, singing and talking and dancing. Tonight, regardless of the colour of their skin, they are all red.

It is not my memory. I know it only through shared stories, through the genes given to me by one who sang and danced and rejoiced that night at my great-grandfather's farm. His neighbours would turn foreign travellers away, but he welcomed visitors onto

his land and into his home. Meals were shared, stories were told, and new friends were made, all by light of moon, fire, and stars. Often, he'd let his children stay outside in tents with their Aboriginal guests, so they could learn about their visitors' culture. The guests were always grateful for his hospitality and respect, and he appreciated the chance to share his good fortune with others. The farm is divided up now, but ghosts remain—spirits of people singing and dancing and glowing fire-red with happiness.

§

"Mum, what's that?" My awed breath fogs the otherwise flawless glass. My pudgy fingers are splayed against the angular display case like barnacles. Strategically placed spotlights blossom from the sterile ceiling—haloing glass, metal, and skin with hot yellow-white, casting an alluring gleam on gold and shimmer on silver.

Both taught and taunted by the promise of commission, a shrewd clerk brings the white velveteen tray out before the glass can clear or my mother can object. "It's a Star of David. Here." The saleswoman's smile looks alien under the barrage of light as she places the delicate gold pendant in the fleshy crater of my palm.

The novelty of holding a star in my hand is not lost on me. The flesh of my thumb swells purple and indignant around one of the star's six points as I hold it up and peer through it like a looking glass. "It's so pretty! Mum, can I have one for Christmas? Pretty please?"

"No." Her answer is immediate and resolute, but not harsh. She quickly takes the pendant out of my grasp and gives it back to the clerk, whose smile falters; she senses the sale passing her by. "You're not Jewish."

I'm too young and unworlly to follow this line of logic. What does that mean? Surely our money is as good as Jewish money. Why do I need to be Jewish (whatever THAT is . . . a club? a family?) to have a Star of David? Who is this David anyway? Why does he get his own star—one with an extra point, no less? Is it like the pens they sell in the drug store, the ones with people's



Tara Taylor

The Mactaggart Writing Award is a \$10,000 prize awarded to the best original essay written by a student or faculty member in the Faculty of Arts. Established in 1999 by Sandy and Cecile Mactaggart, the \$10,000 prize is to be used to fund travel that will provide a stimulating educational and cultural experience.

Each year the competition alternates between students and faculty. In 2004, the competition

focused on student writing and was awarded to Tara Taylor, a third-year Honours English and Creative Writing student. Her essay was selected unanimously by a panel of six judges from a pool of 54 submissions.

In addition to providing the award, the Mactaggarts funded a one-day creative writing workshop for the six short-listed finalists with Greg Hollingshead, an award-winning novelist and retiring English professor in the Faculty of Arts. "These were keen, bright students who were curious to learn," said Hollingshead. "It was a privilege to spend the day with them."

names on them? They never have mine, not even the alternate spelling. "So?" So indeed. So much petulance and ignorance loaded into that defiant reply.

"How about this unicorn, sweetie? Isn't she pretty?" Thanks to my mother's keen negotiating skills, I don't leave the jewellery store bare-necked: a lovely crystal heart is nestled in the hollow of my throat, with a rainbow-coloured unicorn head at its centre. As we head to the parking lot, I watch the sunlight bounce off the unicorn's horn, but the ghost of the star still haunts my palm; I can feel the bite of each point against my skin as if they had marked me. I wonder what 'Jewish' is, what makes this David so different than me that he has a defining symbol and I do not.

Where the curves of the heart rest against me, safe and smooth, I imagine the insistence of the star's sharp points. They fit better.

Tabula rasa. Clean slate. It sounded like such a promising concept back in high school social studies classes. But what good is it to be empty, untethered? I was raised without a religious or ethnic context, with no external definitions other than 'white Canadian female'. Some consider that a privilege, a blessing; they say I should be grateful for the opportunities the blankness of my skin will inadvertently provide for me. *Tabula rasa.* Any markings on my canvas, be they masterpieces or mistakes, have been completely of my own making. I had no choice but to define myself. Yet, in truth, as politically incorrect as it might be, I have always envied anyone with a strong cultural heritage. I wanted admittance to that exclusivity; I wanted exotic customs and foods; I wanted to have family to visit overseas and another language to speak at home. I craved a shared history. I needed context and subtext. I wanted my bloodline to be deep enough to drown in.

§

"Aw, sweetie. Did you behead Miko AGAIN?" My father stabs his freshly-lit cigarette into the ashtray, then gruffly grabs the headless doll out of my reverent hands.

"I didn't do it on purpose!" Scowling, I watch him like a hawk to make sure he treats Miko well.

He makes a few halfhearted attempts at replacing the doll's head, but to no avail. "Sorry, Munchkin. I don't think she can be fixed anymore." He wipes away the web-like residue of glue that provides a lacy background for the cracks in her neck.

I stand my ground, positioning myself petulantly in front of the garbage can. I won't let him throw her away. "Well, then . . . give her a brace!"

My father looks at the impudent, pouting child in front of him and chuckles to himself. (I'm certainly not laughing: I can barely see through my unshed tears.) "She's just a doll. You have plenty more."

He tries to nudge me back to my room, but I'm no Cindy Lou Who: I will not be placated by a pat on the head. "Those are Barbies—"

"They're all the same—"

"THEY ARE NOT!" Come not between a girl and her favourite doll. "Barbie's always blonde. Miko's not!" I don't yet realize that my beloved Miko is simply a Barbie with black hair instead of blonde, brown eyes instead of blue. But there is a slight slant to her eyes, and it intrigues me. "She's different!"

My father realizes he can't win, so he puts Miko on the table and, muttering something about Frankenstein's bride (Who is Frankenstein? Does he know David?), gets the glue out of the junk drawer. I stomp back to my room, its floor strewn with blonde Barbie heads. Some almost have black hair, courtesy of my Mr. Sketch felts; others bear the scars of my early attempts at hair styling. But none of them are a Miko. She embodies something special. Something to be cherished. Something I will never relegate to my bedroom floor.

Jem was the lead singer of Jem and the Holograms but, unlike many toy-crazed young girls in the 1980s, I wanted to be Aja or Shana instead. Not only did they have better hair colours—blue and purple, respectively, compared to Jem's glaringly girly pink—and play cooler instruments, they were different. Aja, perhaps playing off her name, was Asian, and Shana was dark-skinned. Both had lovely voices, kind souls, and interesting clothes, but it was more than that: they were imbued with an alluring otherness—even if it was glossed over. In hindsight, I realize the creators were probably just trying to be savvy and appeal to as many markets as possible, but their capitalistic crass had an unexpected effect on me. I wanted Aja to be front and centre; I thought Shana ought to be in the spotlight. Whenever I played the Concert Clash board game, I was always Aja, with no fuss; my friends all squabbled over who would be Jem. Their loss.

§

Longboat, Robert's hero, was an Indian. He ran the marathon. He won things. Then he smiled and was silent. Robert smiled and was silent, too. He'd go upstairs into the attic, when he was ten, and take off his clothes in front of an old, dark mirror and wish that he was red. Or black. Or

yellow. Any colour but pink. Smiling and silence didn't seem to go with pink.

—from Timothy Findley's *The Wars*

When I was in Kindergarten, a classmate ran into the room in tears one day. *They won't let my daddy come get me no more!* she wailed. I asked why and she said a single word, thick and resonant. I didn't know what it was then, but I later learned that it referred to her father's ceremonial Sikh dagger. *It scares the children*, the principal explained. *Which children?* I wanted to demand. Certainly not me. I had smiled at him each day on my way home, and he would smile back. I was curious about what the elaborate sheath held, but never frightened of it. Its name, which would have tangled my tongue, held hints of heady incense and bold colours, not fear.

Other cultures have always captivated me, both in my studies and in the world around me. I see such beauty in the deceptively delicate facial features of my Asian friends, and hear such richness in the lyrical voices of my African and Aboriginal classmates. My ears delight to hear the fiery passion of Spanish or Italian, or the sturdiness of Scandinavian languages as I walk through a mall. When my religious studies class went to a synagogue, I was humbled by the sense of community and devotion: when a toddler ran up to the front, the rabbi did not send her back to her parents, but rather picked her up and carried her for the rest of his sermon. What must it be like to be raised not just by a family, but an entire community?

National mythologies, ancient deities, mysterious symbols—I adore them all. But learning about them brings my lack of personal cultural background into painful focus, reminding me of what I am not, of what I do not have. Canada may be multicultural, allowing other cultures to thrive, but it has yet to develop a distinctive culture of its own—as have I. Is this why I love fantasy literature so much? Because it shows that a culture can indeed be created? J.R.R. Tolkien wanted a mythology for Britain. My goals are more humble: I just want a mythology for me.

“You look different, Pique. It's your hair. Why braids?”

Pique drew one of her long black elastic-held braids over her shoulder and stroked it lightly.

“Cooler. Keeps it away from my face in this weather. Also, I'm part-Indian—it's suitable, isn't it?”

“I'm not sure I'm hearing you very accurately. What're you trying to say?”

“I don't know,” Pique said. “I don't want to be split. I want to be together. But I'm not. I don't know where I belong.”

—from Margaret Laurence's *The Diviners*

Being afflicted with ethnic envy is not easy. I've been accused of disrespecting the cultures I admire, and am constantly told I ought to “appreciate how good I have it”. How good indeed. All my traditions have been invented; I spent a lot of angsty teenage years trying to discover my spiritual path, stumbling often since I had no starting point. I've seen people who wear a bindi or dreadlocks be accused of ‘culture vulturing’. I understand the concerns—if I had a defined culture, I certainly wouldn't want its symbols to be sold at Zellers—but if the intentions are good, where is the harm? Exposure breeds awareness, or at least curiosity, which can lead to knowledge. By learning the customs and cultures of others, our own experience is enriched, as well as our understanding of those around us.

For a long time I denied facets of my heritage, not out of shame but because I thought it would be easier to immerse myself in only one heritage. Since I'm predominantly German, it won out. I never considered the disservice I was doing to my Scottish grandfather or my Polish grandmother; I didn't worry myself with the unaddressed Belgian, British, Irish, and Austrian parts of my ancestry. I just wanted to belong. I was finally beginning to understand the allure of gangs, sororities, and social clubs: to belong was, in a sense, simply to be. My attempts, however, failed spectacularly. I never did gain fluency in German, despite taking numerous courses. My last name remained unrepentantly Scottish. I was often mistaken for French. But I never “looked the part”—any part. After all, what ethnicity is known for brown hair?

Anna laughs when I see my name as an acronym on the digital display of a produce scale. “That's quite odd. Your name is rare here.”

‘Here’ is Schwerin, Germany. I had won a German essay-writing contest in grade eleven and was granted a month-long educational trip to Germany, including a two week stay with a family in Schwerin. The immersion is both daunting and exhilarating. “I guessed as much.” No one pronounces my name properly here: German accents make it sound rich and exotic, and I take pleasure in it every time it's invoked. “It's common in Canada.”

My house-mother smiles as we unload the grocery cart at the checkout counter. “It's very pretty. It's one of the reasons we chose to host you instead of Ulrike.”

Since Ulrike, another Canadian winner, said my host family is nicer than hers, my curiosity is piqued. “Oh? I thought we were randomly assigned.” I school my voice to be deliberately light and disinterested: there is a certain cachet to being chosen, one I'm not accustomed to. I want to savour it, but at the same time, I don't want to preen.

"Oh, not at all." Anna pushes the cart into the return bay, then gets her chequebook ready. "We didn't want a German. What would be the fun in that? No, no. Ludwig and I wanted a real Canadian, and with a name like yours, we know you couldn't possibly be German, right?"

To a seventeen year old me, Germany was paradise. I'd been on school-related trips before, but they never lasted longer than a week, and I had never gone farther than Vancouver. Now, I was in Europe, sans family; I was part of an organized educational tour group, but the fact remained that I was free of the umbrella of parental jurisdiction for a month. Four blessed weeks. I didn't have to share the nerves of my first plane ride with anyone else, or the delight of my first train trip; all the experiences were fully my own. Life just didn't get better for a teenager.

I prepared myself for jarring culture shock, but found none. There were differences, to be sure—children running naked in public parks, the lower drinking ages, centuries-old castles at seemingly every turn—but it all felt right, like I was supposed to be there.

There were five other Canadians in my group, and though they were wonderful people, I didn't spend much time with them. The Portuguese delegation captured my heart early on with their infectious warmth and effervescence. During train rides between cities, we would share a car—eight of them with their sun-kissed skin and one pale, pasty me—and talk endlessly. They often slipped into Portuguese and asked me questions, and at my blank-faced reply, I'd be enveloped in multiple hugs and apologies and told, "We forgot you aren't Portuguese!" Those moments of belonging meant more than any tours through royal gardens or trips to museums.

I loved my time in Germany and the friends I made there. After our teary farewells, we wrote back and forth faithfully; my mailbox was a veritable United Nations of envelopes and elaborate postage stamps. At the end of one such letter, a single word jarred me out of the communal memories of crazy hostels and exhausting treks. Kate. I couldn't remember a Kate. Then I looked on the other side of the stationery, following a wavy arrow, and felt my idealistic heart deflate.

Katja, a lovely girl from Russia, was learning English, and was practicing the Anglicized name her teacher made her use in class. *How horrible*, I thought. Reduced from Katja, so melodic and sensuous, to generic *Kate*. I wanted to tell her to cherish her name and its beauty, not forsake it to blend into the bland English sphere. But I didn't. When I wrote back, I kept to safe topics: school, family, my poetry. But I addressed it to Katja.

My mother, in the spirit of all parents who have ever tried to soothe their children, insists that I look German. How so, I wonder? Is it the thickness of my hair? The deep set of my eyes? My sturdy jaw, 'big bones', or wide hips? How do I manage to look more German than Polish or Scottish? To what extent can looks define cultural identity? I have friends born in Canada to Japanese families who consider themselves purely Canadian—no hyphens required. Conversely, I know people whose families have lived in North America for generations, yet still identify themselves as Kenyan, Spanish, Ukrainian.

I will never have Aja's enchantingly slanted eyes or Miko's sleek black hair. I can't lay cultural claim to St. Patrick's Day or the Trojan War. But that doesn't mean I appreciate them any less. Like Canada, I am growing; I am a composite of cultures—and I'm slowly realizing that everyone is. Identification starts, literally and figuratively, with I—with the self, whether it's a nation in question or an individual. I will always admire and envy those with an inherited culture, but I'm beginning to respect my mutability as well. I get to create my life in so many ways. When I follow a tradition, I know it will be out of choice, not obligation. My spiritual path is one I found, not one I was steered toward. I will take all the truths I discover and mould them into a mosaic of stories and beliefs. Perhaps to be born with no culture is a cultural identity unto itself, and exploration is my birthright.

§

In the morning, breakfast is shared under the rising sun. Children go in groups to fetch water from the well while the adults prepare the food. Both open flame and stove are used for cooking, and recipes are shared with voices and gestures, not pen and paper. All the horses are released into the far field to graze, and perhaps they are sharing stories too. When the visitors leave, smiling with gratitude and promising to return, the sun is high and the blades that cannot cut give way to foot, hoof, and wheel. Though the glare of sunlight may imply differently, they are all still red.

§

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FACULTY OF
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All alumni are invited to Reunion 2005 festivities!

KEY REUNION EVENTS

For more information and a listing of faculty events, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 780-492-6075 or 1-800-661-2593 (toll free in Canada & US) or go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/reunion

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Alumni Awards Ceremony & Reception

The Alumni Association will add four more distinguished graduates to the Alumni Wall of Recognition as well as recognize recipients of the Alumni Honour Award, Alumni Horizon Award, and Alumni Award of Excellence.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Green and Gold Reception

This event offers an informal opportunity to catch up with your classmates while enjoying a casual dinner in the centre of the University campus. There is no formal program for the evening, which will provide a chance for classmates to sit, visit and catch up. Cake will be served to celebrate Alberta's 100th birthday.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Faculty Open Houses & Special Events

Most faculties in the University community open their doors for you to come in and see what is new. Some faculties host brunches/lunches for their alumni. Details will be posted on our website as they become available and will be listed in the brochure, available in June.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, CONTINUED

Empey Lecture

Knee-high to a Grasshopper: Acclaimed author Linda Goyette and CBC radio host Ron Wilson will guide us through Alberta's past 100 years as seen through the eyes of its children. Please join us for this theatrical presentation and feel free to bring your own childhood story along. Afterwards there will be an old-fashioned penny carnival.

Tailgate Party & Bears Football Game

Relive those glory days! Enjoy the adrenaline rush and the heart pounding action as the Golden Bears take on the University of Manitoba Bisons.

Campus Tours

Join one of our free campus walking tours to see how campus has changed since you graduated.

Reunion Gala Dinner

This is the grand finale to Saturday's events. Come and join over 700 alumni for dinner, followed by dancing to a live band. Each anniversary class will receive a souvenir lapel pin indicating its anniversary year.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

President's Breakfast

This event is opened to those who graduated in 1955, 1950, 1945, 1940 or earlier. If this is you, join our new President, Dr. Indira Samarasekera, for a delicious breakfast.

PARTICIPATING CLASSES

The following classes have volunteers who are helping to organize their class reunion during Reunion 2005. If you would like to get your class involved, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (780) 492-6075.

1940	Home Economics	Pharmacy	Home Economics	Mechanical Engineering	1985	Physical Education
Engineering	Law	Physical Education	Law	Nursing (BSc)	Agriculture	Pharmacy
Medicine	Nursing (BSc)	Students' Council	Medical Laboratory Science	Pharmacy	Dental Surgery	1995
Nursing (Dip)	Pharmacy	1960	Physical Education	Physical Education	Faculte-Saint Jean Education	Civil Engineering
1945	Science (Honours)	Arts	Pharmacy	1980	Law	Mechanical Engineering
Education	1955	Chemical Engineering	Rehab Med (Dip)	Arts	Master of Library Science	Engineering
Engineering	Agriculture	Law	1970	Chemical Engineering	MBA	Metallurgical Engineering
Electrical Engineering	Arts	Mechanical Engineering	Agriculture	Engineering	Music	Occupational Therapy
/ Engineering Physics	BSc (Laboratory Technology)	Nursing (BSc)	Education (Dip)	Civil Engineering	Physical Education	Physical Education
Home Economics	Civil Engineering	Pharmacy	Home Economics	Commerce	Speech Pathology & Audiology	2000
Medicine	Commerce	1965	Mechanical Engineering	Dental Hygiene	1990	Commerce
Nursing (Dip)	Education	Agriculture	Music	Electrical Engineering	Agricultural Business Management	Electrical Engineering
Pharmacy	Electrical Engineering	Arts	Nursing (Dip)	Law	Dental Hygiene	Faculte-Saint Jean Education
1950	Home Economics	Arts (Honours)	Physical Education	Medical Laboratory Science	Education	Kinesiology
Agriculture	Law	Chemical Engineering	1975	Music	Diploma in the faculty of Education	Law
Arts	Medical Lab. Science	Civil Engineering	Agriculture	Nursing (BSc)	Civil Engineering	Nursing (BSc)
Civil Engineering			Commerce	Occupational Therapy	Home Economics	Occupational Therapy
			Dental Hygiene	Pharmacy	Nursing (BSc)	Physical Education
			Home Economics	Physical Education		Physical Therapy
			Law			Science
			MBA			



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

September 29 – October 2

Reunion 2005



Use Your University of Alberta Alumni Status to Your Advantage

The University of Alberta Alumni Association is pleased to offer a range of benefits and services to all graduates of the University of Alberta. As alumni, you are all eligible to enjoy these program offerings, such as expanding your personal and career connections by attending networking opportunities, which include chapter and branch events and Reunion Weekend activities. In some cases, your support benefits not only you but also the Alumni Association. Through our affinity partnerships we receive ongoing support for alumni programs, events, scholarships, and awards.

10% Discount at the University of Alberta Bookstore

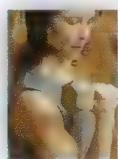
You are eligible to receive 10% off all U of A crested clothing, giftware, general books, and other merchandise at the U of A Bookstore (discount does not apply to textbooks and computer hardware and software). All you need to do is show your Alumni OneCard. You can get your OneCard in the OneCard Office, lower level, Cameron Library. There is a one-time set-up charge of \$12.

The bookstore is located in the lower level of SUB; visit their website at www.bookstore.ualberta.ca to see the selection of general books available.



Alumni Sports and Recreation Privileges on Campus

Your alumni status also gives you access to many sports and recreation facilities on campus, as well as the option of including your spouse and dependents. Show your Alumni OneCard to get special discounted rates.



Weekly, monthly, four-month, and annual rates are offered.

Special rates for Foote Field and the University of Alberta Tennis Centre are also available.

Visit the Fitness and Lifestyle Centre website at www.physedandrec.ualberta.ca/fitness.cfm or call the Van Vliet Gold Office at (780) 492-2231 for details.

On-Line Community (OLC)

The OLC is your link with former classmates and fellow alumni from around the world for networking, mentoring, career advice, travel and relocation advice, and much more. Visit www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/alumniservices/olc.cfm to join. Your membership also entitles you to receive *E-trail*, the Alumni Association's monthly electronic newsletter.

U of A Crested Degree Frames

Show off your hard-earned degree in an official University of Alberta crested frame, available in your choice of six styles. Starting at \$65 (tax and shipping included), these Canadian-made frames feature acid-free matting, top-quality materials, and a special easy open backing. Matching photo frames, custom sizes, and degree replicas also available. Order from the website (www.ualberta.ca/alumni/frames) or call 1-800-661-2593. The website has detailed pictures of the frames as well!

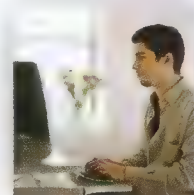


Scholarships

Did you know that your children or your grandchildren are eligible to apply for the Alumni Advantage Scholarship? The \$2,500 award is given out annually to a continuing student with high academic standing and demonstrated involvement both on campus and in the community. Applications will be available from the Office of Alumni Affairs in September. For more information call 1-800-661-2593.

CAPS Workstation for Alumni

Your Alumni OneCard will also give you access to a workstation specifically for alumni at the



University's Career and Placement Services. CAPS can assist you with your career options and help you develop your resume or prepare for an interview. You can find their office on the second floor of SUB; their website is www.ualberta.ca/caps.

World Masters Games Focus on Participants

As David Schneider, '80 BA, '01 MBA, finishes another weekly half-marathon and sweats through his other workouts in preparation for this summer's World Masters Games (WMG), he has an advantage over many of the other participants—he already knows that he's training for the experience of a lifetime.

Schneider was one of a few City of Edmonton employees who travelled to Melbourne, Australia, during the 2001 WMG to promote Edmonton's turn hosting the 2005 games. Melbourne was busy, exciting, and crowded with athletes. Before long, the long-time recreational runner realized he could be one of those athletes.

"I remember standing out in the park in Melbourne watching the 10-kilometre race, and I realized the athletes were the same as me and I was the same as them," says Schneider. "I could have run the race there. It was no different from any other 10-kilometre race we have in Edmonton."

Now that Schneider knows he belongs in the WMG, he just has to decide how many events to compete in. "I'm definitely going into the half-marathon and am just weighing out whether to go into the 10-kilometre road race and 8-kilometre cross-country race, too."

Running three races over several days won't be too much for Schneider, who clocks a half-marathon every Friday morning before work and has been a faithful participant in Beat Beethoven and the half-marathon events in Edmonton. He's never left the city to compete, and he has never had the chance to be involved in something as big as the WMG, which will see about 16,000 athletes competing in 27 sports. For Schneider and so many other athletes, the WMG will be "a unique, once-in-a-lifetime event," and he plans to take part in the events outside the competition.

"I will absolutely be there at the opening ceremonies. It was remarkable

in Melbourne to see so many athletes. The focus of the WMG is not the observers but the participants—it's about giving them a good experience."

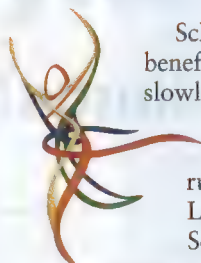
Schneider knows his hometown can meet the challenge.

"This city is amazingly skilled at hosting athletic events," he says. "The Corporate Challenge has between 15,000 and 16,000 participants, which is similar to what will be in the WMG. There is no shortage of expertise and experience in Edmonton. The city is hospitable. The one challenge will be accommodating, hosting, and moving all the visitors. There will be a crush on hotel rooms and taxis, which is terrific but will be a real challenge."

From being in Melbourne, Schneider knows that we can expect to see athletes everywhere in the city during the games, which run from 22 to 31 July. Games-issued backpacks and accreditation tags will make the athletes noticeable, and their presence will bump up the energy in the city. From all accounts, the athletes will be excited to be here.

"They all knew where Canada was and were excited that Edmonton is close to the Rocky Mountains," says Schneider. "Many said they would make the trip and it would be their trip of a lifetime. The response to Edmonton hosting was universally, enthusiastically positive."

It will undoubtedly be positive for Edmonton, too. Along with increased tourism dollars and exposure, the legacy for the city, says Schneider, is that people will look at the events and ask why they aren't involved. "And then they will build physical fitness into their lives."



WORLD MASTERS GAMES
EDMONTON • CANADA 05

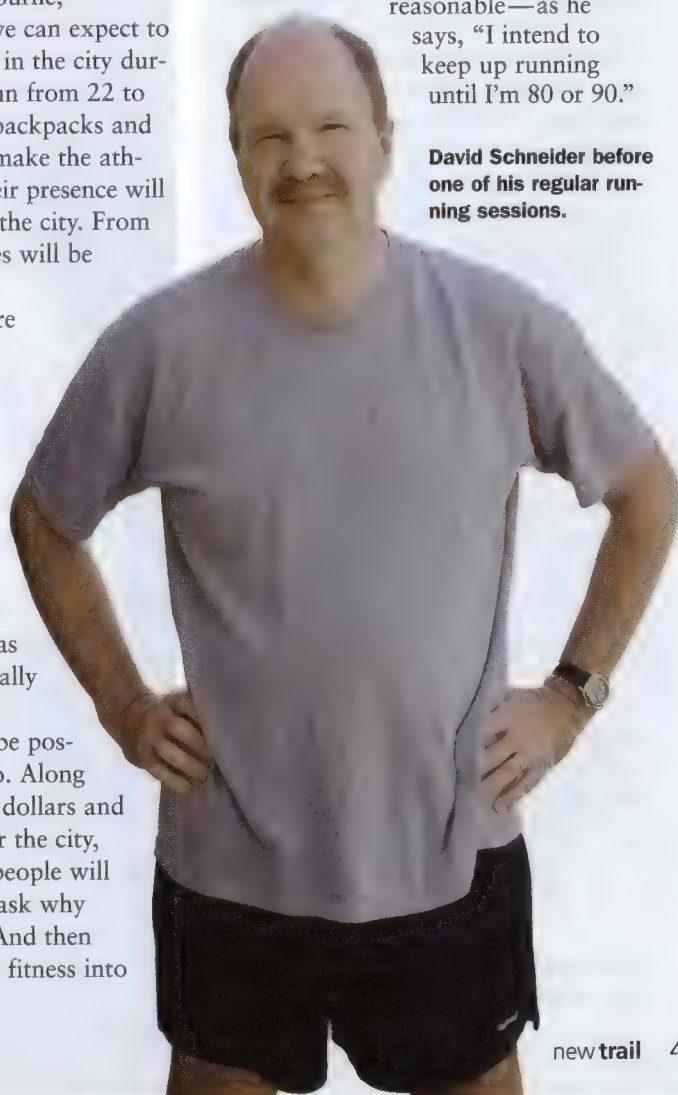
Schneider is passionate about the benefits of staying fit. He started very slowly in the 1970s when recreational running was pretty new to

Edmonton. "I started by running around the field at Our Lady of Victories Elementary School. Then I ran down the sides of the Whitemud Freeway and into the river valley." Now,

years later, what has running given him? "I am able to play with my kids easily. I am now 45 and I have lots of energy to do whatever I want whenever I want."

Considering that the oldest competitor in the Melbourne WMG was a 99-year-old sprinter (as the sole competitor in the 95 to 99 year age group for the 100-metre dash, he won gold), Schneider's plans to stay active are reasonable—as he says, "I intend to keep up running until I'm 80 or 90."

David Schneider before one of his regular running sessions.



The Gift of Growth

The MacCallums believe in life-long learning

by Suzanne Harris, '89 BA

Oh yes, the MacCallums have travelled a little.

Okay, they've travelled a lot.

Photographs and art from around the world adorn the walls of **Bill**, '73 BEd, and **Liliane MacCallum**'s house in quiet testament to their wanderlust. There is a great degree of humility here. Down to the last minute before the interview, they are not sure they want to be featured in a story. They finally agree because they believe it will benefit the University. Education is something they take very seriously.

Bill and Liliane devoted most of their working lives to teaching. When they retired about 15 years ago, Liliane, who has bachelor's degrees in arts and education from Notre Dame College in New Hampshire and a master's of education from Boston College, was an associate professor at the Faculté Saint-Jean and Bill was teaching English and social studies in the Edmonton Catholic School system. Retirement for them meant the opportunity to put their own education into full gear. They set out to explore the globe.

"We figured we owed it to ourselves to find out about our world," says Liliane. They have eschewed cruise travel in favour of self-guided tours and educational tours, such as those organized by Elderhostel or the Alumni Association's travel program.

"The first trip we took with alumni travel was to Sicily."

They've travelled by car, rail, plane, ship, and river craft. They've crawled into caves, caverns, and catacombs. They've visited hospitals and schools on several continents, absorbing history,

economics, politics, culture, and geography along the way.

The MacCallums have an intense and sincere interest in the world around them. There is a vitality about the couple that makes it difficult to believe they are both approaching their 80s.

"You're not going to live forever," says Bill. "So while you live, you grow."

The joy of discovering the new can be heard in Bill's voice as he speaks about the wonders of computer technology and the Internet. He compares it to his own university days typing out papers on typewriters, when "cut" and "paste" were hands-on, physical realities, and when the blasted frustration of missing a footnote on a page could add hours to one's workload.



The MacCallums in Corbett Hall, home to the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Richard Siemens/U of A Creative Services

& Possibility

and the beauty of potential

"Education, knowledge ... is not particularly subject to the ravages of time, like the physical self," says Bill. "We are so grateful for the opportunities that our post-secondary education has provided for us, we always knew we wanted to give something back to the University."

Although they had talked about it for some time, they weren't sure exactly what form that "something" would take. Because both were teachers, they might have chosen to support the Faculty of Education. Or with Liliane employed by the Faculté Saint-Jean for almost 20 years, they might have chosen to support the Faculté. But it didn't go that way; instead, the MacCallums' gift is directed toward the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

"It always comes down to, 'Why the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine?' " says Bill, anticipating the question with a knowing smile. "Well, it probably began when we met the faculty's dean in Russia last summer."

It trips off his tongue as easily as if it had been at last week's dinner party. It was on the Volga River, in fact, and Dean Albert Cook was the host of a two-week alumni travel excursion in which the MacCallums happened to be participating. In speaking with Cook over the course of the trip, they learned about the work the faculty was doing.

"And even then it started ringing some bell for us," says Bill, recognizing that they have a natural interest in the helping professions. There are members of Bill's family who had faced the challenges of raising children with disabilities, autism in particular, so some of the programs had personal meaning for him.

Upon their return to Canada, the MacCallums toured the faculty and

were impressed by what they saw. It clicked for both of them.

"We observed classes and the studies they were doing with autism, and it became clear this is what we both wanted to do," Bill says. "We're interested in helping people who are disadvantaged, and we enjoy the thought of being part of this faculty's success."

They consulted with the University Development Office and their financial planner and lawyer to work out their plan.

"Everything went so smoothly," says Liliane. "It was ..." she searches for the right word, "... fun!"

The MacCallums' cash gift and their bequest both come with no strings attached.

"It is to be used at the discretion of the faculty," says Liliane, who started with Faculté Saint-Jean when it was an Oblate college and was on staff when it became part of the U of A. "I know what it means to be part of a young faculty," she explains. "You never know what you're going to get from one year to the next, and it's tough competing with all the established faculties for recognition, funding, and students. There also aren't a lot of alumni to support it."

The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is not only the youngest faculty on the University of Alberta campus, it is also the only free-standing faculty of rehabilitation in Canada. It is the home of programs in occupational and physical therapy, speech-language pathology, and audiology.

The MacCallums' gift to the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is a perfect fit for them. It's not just a gift of dollars. It's the gift of education, of comfort, of growth, and of possibility.

How the MacCallum Gift Works

The MacCallums made their gift to the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine as a bequest in their wills. The bequest is the most common form of planned gift, often referred to as the "ultimate gift," made from capital assets rather than disposable income.

Generally, a bequest is cited as a percentage or fraction of the net value of an estate. A bequest can range from 1 to 100 percent of the net value. An estate gift can also be for a specific amount of cash.

The University Development Office works with donors and their advisors to facilitate such gifts. Wills can be complex—they should be drafted with the assistance of a lawyer and may include discussions with an accountant or other financial counsel. We regularly provide the descriptive language to a donor's solicitor to ensure the accuracy of the donor's wishes.

Today, we find that more and more donors are interested in establishing the terms for a future gift from their estate. We encourage this practice because it ensures clarity of the donor's objective for the gift. Additionally, with the terms for the bequest in place, the donor may wish to make annual contributions to the program to see their gift in action firsthand.

A bequest to the University of Alberta can also provide a tax benefit to the donor's estate. The donor's estate will receive a tax receipt for the full value of the bequest. That receipt will help reduce the tax payable by the estate.

If it is your intention to include the University of Alberta in your will or you would like to learn more about bequests, we would like to hear from you.

- ☐ I have included for the University of Alberta in my Will or Trust Agreement
- ☐ I am interested in receiving more information about bequests through my Will

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please contact us at:

Development Office, Gift Planning
6th Floor, General Services Building
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H1
Telephone: (780) 492-0332
E-mail: giving@ualberta.ca



How did you get my number?

Your privacy and the Alumni Association

Who has access to my information?

Only individuals working on behalf of the University, who have signed a non-disclosure agreement, and who have a specific need to see it, have access to your personal information.



Does the Alumni Association sell its list?

No, it does not. Even with our affinity service partnerships, no information is released directly to our partners. The University is at all times responsible for safeguarding your information.

What kinds of contact can I expect?

The Alumni Association and the University regularly contact alumni by mail, phone and e-mail on matters we think would be of interest to our members. For example, *New Trail* is mailed out to all alumni, free of charge, for life. Our electronic newsletter, e-trail is e-mailed monthly. Invitations to reunions and events are also sent regularly.



Other contacts could include mail, phone calls, or e-mail to select alumni about our travel, insurance and credit card programs. The University's Student Calling Program has current students contacting alumni about news, events and fund-raising opportunities. Our office might also contact you if a former classmate would like to reconnect — again, your information is not released without your permission.

I prefer not to be phoned. I only want to receive certain kinds of mail. What do I do?

Just contact us and let us know. It is our responsibility to ensure that your information is accurate and treated according to your wishes.

Why are you calling me about insurance or credit cards anyway?

Without alumni participation in our Affinity Services, your Alumni Association would not be able to provide its remaining programs for alumni and students. These include scholarships and awards, free online community services, alumni education programs, events from rural Alberta to cities overseas, and our annual Reunion Days.



An all-volunteer Alumni Council, made up of alumni from every faculty, carefully reviews these services and also decides how the revenue is spent. But it is your participation that makes all the difference.

For more information on our affinity partners, please contact us at 1-800-661-2593, or go online to www.ualberta.ca/alumni.



To read a full privacy statement, please go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/privacy.html

To make changes to your record, please contact the records department at 1-866-492-7516.

For more information, we can also be reached by phone at 1-800-661-2593 or (780) 492-3224, by fax at (780) 492-1568, via e-mail at alumni@ualberta.ca, or visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni

trails

Following the Footsteps of University of Alberta Alumni



Begat #40 (2004)
6" x 11"
acrylic, graphite,
and toner on board

Carolyn Campbell, '87 BFA, '94 BA, '04 MFA, says her small paintings are "my starting point for a lot of ideas."

The ideas her small paintings explore include "literature, art talking about art, friendships, the viewer and the viewed, the meaning of the gaze, and the positioning of particular artworks and movements within the canon of art history."

Though Campbell's begat paintings are portraits of women with intense gazes, she says, "I don't think of them purely as portraits, which is somewhat evident in the fact that the bodies and faces are hybrids. However, the specificity of the faces is important—I like that which is particular and exacting, which communicates more to a viewer than that which is very general."

REFLECTIONS



At the end of June, the University of Alberta will bid farewell to President Rod Fraser. After serving our alma mater for more than 10 years, he leaves

a legacy of unprecedented growth and a focus on internationalization.

President Fraser saw more than 65,000 graduands cross the platform at convocation to receive their degrees. He visited each of the 54 alumni branches across Canada and around the world at least once, and he presented 45 Distinguished Alumni Awards and 125 other alumni awards. He provided outstanding leadership to our university, always challenging alumni and friends to step forward to support it in educating the leaders of tomorrow.

From the moment he took on the office, President Fraser made it a personal mission to see the University of Alberta "indisputably recognized" as one of Canada's top universities. That ambitious goal is close, and he can make his departure secure in the knowledge that he has set this institution on its course to receive the recognition it deserves.

It is fitting that the president's final few months in office have been highlighted by the recent announcements of increases in provincial funding for post-secondary education. Dr. Fraser has fought long and hard through many lean years to get the province to increase its commitment to Alberta's universities. He brought together a huge team of people to raise awareness throughout the province of the need for a reinvestment in post-secondary education in Alberta. The Access to the Future Act is a clear signal that the Alberta government heard the president's message and wants to help build stronger universities.

Please join me in wishing President Fraser all the best in his future endeavours. I'm sure his drive and his commitment to the learning community will keep him connected to the University of Alberta.

Dick Wilson, '74 BA, '75 LLB
Alumni Association President

SALUTE TO VOLUNTEERS



His grandmother told him, "Go to school," and **Larry Shipka**, '64 BSc(Pharm) listened. "She was a great inspiration to me," Shipka says. "She immigrated from Ukraine in 1910 and could not read or write, and she always told me, 'Learn as much as you can.'"

It was a big step moving from Smoky Lake, Alberta, to the busy and crowded university campus. "I came from a town of about 600 people and my dad dropped me off onto a campus of thousands. It was a challenge."

Shipka excelled in that world, and years later, after his career as a practising pharmacist and with the provincial pharmacists' association and department of health, he knew it was time to give back to the University.

"The U of A gave me a marvellous career. It opened all sorts of doors. I will be forever grateful to the University for a fulfilling career."

After he retired, Shipka starting coming in to work at the Faculty of Pharmacy one day a week to help in any way possible, keeping a promise he'd made years before to the dean of the faculty. Reconnecting alumni with the U of A is a big job, so it's not hard for Shipka to fill his days at the University.

"I work on the class reunion, I visit people who might want to set up a scholarship or get involved in some way. I help at the dean's golf tournament, which is a fundraiser. ... I'll keep going back as long as they feel I can contribute. It's a cause that I believe in."

Shipka encourages alumni to get involved and to make their university family stronger.

"It's good to keep that sense of family that develops when you get to know each other. After you graduate you get involved in your work and you forget what made it possible. I'm here to remind them."

evergreen



A special tribute to Alberta's "Queen of Hugs"

For the past year, the University of Alberta Alumni Association has been working on creating a special award that would recognize the many contributions that undergraduate students make to the betterment of the University community and the society at large. The award was to celebrate student spirit.

When it came to naming the award, **Ruth Kelly**, '78 BA, vice-president of Alumni Council, suggested naming it in memory of the late, the Honourable **Lois Hole**, '00 LLD (Honorary).

"The fit was undeniable," says Kelly. "Who would be a better role model than her Honour."

Throughout her life, **Lois Hole** focused on issues that were most important to her as well as to many Albertans. Chief among these were public education, public libraries, public health care, and the fine arts. She gave her support and

legitimacy to the groups that needed it most, to the people who often went unheard in our culture, and to the charitable groups that needed all of the help and publicity they could get. She hoped that her actions would inspire her fellow citizens to carry on with this work once she was no longer able to do so herself.

To honour her legacy of caring and her generosity of spirit, the Alumni Association has named its student spirit award in memory of her Honour. Valued at \$7,500, the Honourable **Dr. Lois E. Hole Student Spirit Award** will be presented to an undergraduate student who is carrying on with her Honour's work, making the world—be it on campus or in the community—a better place to be.

The first award will be presented at the Alumni Recognition Awards Ceremony on 29 September 2005.

For details about the award, visit the Alumni Association website at www.ualberta.ca/alumni or contact the office at (780) 492-3224 or 1-800-661-2593.

Science student receives bursary from Vancouver alumni branch

While **Sahar Abtahi** is enjoying the experiences of university and has dreams of some day going to medical school, she says the cost of a post-secondary education can make the process seem daunting.

"It is really expensive to go to school these days," says the second-year student in the Faculty of Science. "Tuition keeps rising every year, and it's very hard to get scholarships."

Abtahi adds that it's even more difficult to get scholarships once your university studies are under way. "When you get into second and third year the competition is higher, and there aren't as many awards offered."

Awards such as the Vancouver Alumni Branch Bursary help fill the funding gap for students. Abtahi was last year's recipient of the bursary, which will help her continue her studies.

In 1996, Abtahi and her family immigrated to Canada from Iran. They first lived in Calgary, but the family moved to Edmonton after Abtahi was accepted to the University of Alberta.

"My first choice for school was definitely the U of A," she says. "The U of A has

always been ranked as an excellent school."

When she moved to Edmonton, Abtahi brought her dedication to volunteerism with her. While in Calgary, she volunteered with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Today, she's a mentor for new students in the Faculty of Science, helping them get oriented around campus, and she volunteers for Student Disability Services.

"It feels like a great achievement and a greater honour knowing how hard our alumni worked to establish a bursary," says Abtahi. "I wish I could personally thank the Vancouver Branch. Please thank them on my behalf."

Online Alumni Directory

Would you like to get in touch with an old classmate? One of the many features of the Alumni Association's online community (OLC) is the alumni directory, which you can use to

search for fellow alumni. You can search for people by name, by faculty, by degree, or by a host of other criteria. We protect the privacy of OLC members by hiding their e-mail addresses, but you can still reconnect with someone by sending them a message through a special form. You will find the directory at olcnetwork.net/ualberta/dir/directory.html.

Many OLC members do not realize that for privacy reasons they are not included in the directory by default. If you would like others to be able to find you in the directory, make sure to log in to the OLC and set up your directory profile. You can control the amount of information in your directory entry: contact information, a link to your website, a picture of yourself, and more.

Not a member of the OLC? Find out more about what the OLC has to offer at the following page on the Alumni Association's website: www.ualberta.ca/alumni/olc.

The screenshot shows the 'University of Alberta Directory' search interface. On the left is a 'Community Main Menu' with links like 'Alumni Directory', 'Lifetime E-mail forwarding', 'Mentoring and Job Info', 'Business Card Exchange', 'Class Notes Online', 'Travel / Relocation Advice', 'Bulletin Boards', 'My Settings', 'Contact the Administrator', and 'Logout'. The main area is titled 'ONLINE COMMUNITY' and 'University of Alberta Directory'. It includes a 'Search' section with instructions: 'Use the following form to search for alumni who have asked to be included in the directory.' Below this is a form with fields for 'First Name', 'Last Name', and 'Former Surname'. At the bottom of the form are 'Search' and 'Reset' buttons. A footer at the very bottom lists various site links like 'Alumni Homepage', 'About the Alumni Association', 'Awards & Recognition', etc.

Alumni Events

For more information about alumni events, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs by phone at (780) 492-3224 or (toll-free in North America) 1-800-661-2593 or by e-mail at alumni@ualberta.ca. You can also check the alumni events website at www.ualberta.ca/alumni/events.

31 May 2005

Toronto, Ontario

U of A Law Alumni Reception

5:30 p.m., Suite 4900, Commerce Court West, 199 Bay Street

Alumni and friends of the Faculty of Law are invited to a reception in the Toronto offices of Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP.

Guest Speaker: Dean David Percy, Faculty of Law.

For more information, visit www.law.ualberta.ca/alumni.

4 June 2005

Devon, Alberta

Saturday Walk with a Horticulturist (Trees & Shrubs)

noon to 1:00 p.m., Devonian Botanic Garden, 5 km north of Devon on Hwy. 60

Meet at the Shop-in-the-Garden at noon and tour the Garden's extensive tree and shrub border. Horticulturist Gordon Nielson will guide the tour. Regular Garden admission rates apply.

Phone (780) 987-2064 to book your spot.

4 June 2005

New York, New York

New York Summer Barbecue

noon to 4 p.m., Prospect Park picnic areas closest to 11th St. and Prospect Ave. West, Brooklyn

"All-Canadian" barbecue food will be provided—charcoal-grilled hot dogs and hamburgers with potato salad, chips, watermelon, iced tea and soda. Bring \$10 to help with the costs.

Contact: Brian Martin at brian.martin@matrikon.com or (914) 382-3115 for more information.

7 June 2005

Edmonton, Alberta

Convocation Breakfast — Medicine

8:00 a.m., Beverly Hills Ballroom, Fantasyland Hotel

Alumni are welcome to join the graduating medical students at a convocation breakfast. Tickets are \$20 each.

Contact: Rachel at (780) 492-2896

7 June 2005

Edmonton, Alberta

Convocation Brunch — Dentistry

10:00 a.m., Derrick Golf and Country Club

Graduating students of dentistry will be celebrated at a convocation brunch. Tickets are \$21 each.

Contact: Rachel at (780) 492-2896

1 July 2005

Devon, Alberta

Canada Day in the Garden

noon to 4:00 p.m., Devonian Botanic Garden, 5 km north of Devon on Hwy. 60

Tram tours, indoor showhouses, art show and a relaxing walk to numerous flower beds in the Garden. Regular admission rates apply; 10% of admission will be donated to the University of Alberta United Way Campaign.

Contact: Visitor Services at (780) 987-3054 for further information.

7 July 2005

Edmonton, Alberta

Tour of Trees

Our popular walking tour of our campus trees will be offered for the third consecutive year. Join tree enthusiast Paul Woodard, professor of forestry in the Department of Renewable Resources, for the two-hour tour. Cost is \$5 per person.

For more information or to register, call (780) 492-3224.

29 September to 2 October

Edmonton, Alberta

Reunion 2005

The year 2005 marks a University of Alberta graduation anniversary for anyone who graduated in a year ending in "0" or "5." Days of activities will give alumni a chance to reconnect with old friends and see what's new at the U of A.

*there's nothing quite
like being there...*



ALUMNI EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Learning on Location

Other Outstanding Travel Opportunities:

China Beyond the Great Wall

September 10–25, 2005

From \$3,698 (airfare for international flights extra)

Join Dr. Larry Wang of the University of Alberta and discover the two sides of China: the amazing ancient civilization and the emerging modern giant.

Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World

September 16–October 1, 2005

From \$3,995 (airfare for international flights extra)

University of Alberta Professor Emeritus Earle Waugh, an expert on the history of Christianity and Islam, will host this journey to some of the best preserved sites of the ancient world.

Exotic Morocco

October 22–29, 2005

From \$2,595 (airfare extra)

Explore remarkable Morocco, at once modern and ancient, discovering its fabled architecture, scenic ruins, beautiful gardens, and bustling cities.

Thailand: From Bangkok to the Golden Triangle

November 2–16, 2005



From \$3,399 (airfare for international flights extra)

Experience the rich cultural tapestry and scenic natural beauty of Thailand on this tour hosted by a highly respected local guide.

Colonial Mexico

October 30–November 6, 2005

From \$2,495 (airfare extra)

Discover the splendours of Colonial Mexico through this dual-site program, which features five nights at the charming spa-resort of Cuernavaca and two luxurious nights in wonderful Mexico City.

For more detailed itinerary information visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni/ed



Bella Toscana

October 18–28, 2005

Enjoy a unique learning experience combining stimulating instruction and the sights, sounds and smells of the heart of Italy.

Now in its third season, the University of Alberta Alumni School in Cortona offers participants an in-depth look into the history, culture, and atmosphere of Tuscany.

- Informative classroom sessions and on-site instruction.
- Field trips to historic sites, wine cellars, olive oil mills, and more.
- Ten nights' accommodation at the comfortable and charming Hotel Italia in the heart of Cortona.
- Guided visits to Siena, Chiusi and Assisi.
- Breakfast each morning; four lunches, including a lunch of local game; and four dinners featuring authentic Tuscan cuisine.
- Ample opportunity to explore scenic and friendly Cortona on your own or with fellow alumni.

\$2,875 per person, based on double occupancy (single supplement \$240); airfare not included.



The University of Alberta Alumni School in Cortona is a collaboration between the Faculty of Arts and the U of A Alumni Association.



Les grandes villes du Québec

September 15–21, 2005

Experience the diversity, vibrancy and charm of Québec's two great cities: surprising Montréal and historic Québec City. This exceptional learning on location program is led by Rick Pilger, manager of alumni education programs.

It features experienced tour directors and guides and the opportunity to meet with University of Alberta alumni living in Québec.

- Return air flights from Edmonton or Calgary.
- Six nights' accommodation at specially selected hotels.
- Three breakfasts; three lunches; three dinners; wine and cheese tasting.
- City highlights tours.
- Walking tour of Old Québec.
- Guided visits to the Montréal Biodôme and Olympic Tower, Museum Pointe à Callière (Montréal), Maison Papineau (Montréal), Domaine Joly de Lotbinière (Ste-Croix, and Chateau Frontenac (Québec City).
- Gondola Ride at Montmarcy Falls.
- Ground transportation.

\$2,874 per person from Edmonton or Calgary, based on double occupancy (\$713 single supplement fee)



Call 492-1835 or toll-free 1-800-661-2593 or visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni/ed

Scrapbook



1) Halifax Alumni meet for a tour of the Rodin exhibit at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia on 23 March.

2) **Bernice Baril**, '64 BEd, and **Islay Baril**, '68 BEd, at the Vancouver Branch event on 24 April.

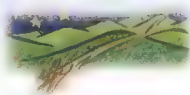
3) Dean of Education **Fern Snart**, '79 PhD, speaks about the University, the Faculty of Education, and Aboriginal Education at the Victoria Branch event held on 23 April at the Empress Hotel.

4) Bonnyville Branch event on 2 April.

5) Alumni at the Lethbridge Branch event on 24 March.

Visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni/branches for more photos of recent Branch events.





Bat mobile: *Science alumnus discovers that vampire bats can run*

You might expect a vampire bat to do some odd things if you put it on a treadmill. You probably wouldn't expect running to be one of them, but that's exactly what **Dan Riskin**, '97 BSc, discovered.

Riskin, a graduate student at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine, and his advisor, John Hermanson, were in Trinidad when they put the vampire bats through their paces. They captured the unexpected results on videotape.

"The two of us watched the playback with our jaws on the floor," says Riskin.

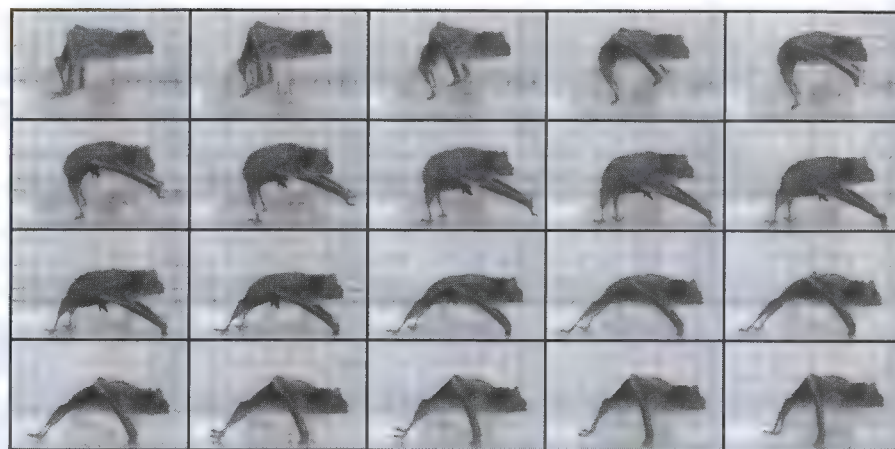
Almost all bats, which are highly specialized for flight, are very bad at crawling on the ground. Riskin says most of the other bats they tested on the treadmill didn't perform well at all, often just sliding to the back of the Plexiglas cage. He expected the vampire bats to do better—they have been seen walking very well and even hopping—but the running caught him by surprise.

"We had the treadmill going at a good speed, and the bats were walking very fast. I thought, 'Let's just see how fast they can go.' I cranked up the speed a little more, and then all of a sudden they completely changed gait. They went from walking very fast to this bounding run."

When the discovery was published in the journal *Nature* in March, Riskin became an over-night star. The story was picked up by newspapers and websites around the world, he was interviewed by the CBC radio programs *As It Happens* and *Quirks and Quarks*, and he appeared on the television show *Daily Planet* on the Discovery Channel.

"When *The New York Times* called it was an amazing thrill," says Riskin.

Although he admits the attention has been exciting, Riskin says what means more to him are the positive comments about his research from sci-



Dan Riskin/Nature

entists for whom he has a great deal of respect. He also says he's had some problems with the sensationalism in some of the media coverage.

"It's been a little frustrating that some of the stories play up the scariness of vampire bats," says Riskin, who has a strong interest in bat conservation. He would rather leave people with a positive feeling about these mouse-sized animals, which he describes as fascinating.

Contrary to what movies would have us believe, Riskin says vampire bats don't swoop down onto an animal's neck and plunge their fangs into the jugular vein. Instead, they land on the ground near a sleeping animal and quietly walk up to it. They use a heat sensor on their nose to find a place where the blood capillaries are close to the skin, and then they make a little cut with their front teeth. The bats just sit there licking the wound for about 30 to 40 minutes, until they drink about a tablespoon of blood.

Riskin says he's been hooked on bats since he read the book *Just Bats* by M. Brock Fenton for a reading assignment in high school. Riskin studied zoology while he was at the U of A, and he says he focused on bats every chance he got.

When he applied for a graduate scholarship during his last year at the U of A, he listed York University, which had Fenton on its faculty, as his first choice.



Top: Sequential frames showing the running gait of a vampire bat.

Left: Dan Riskin was in New Zealand last year to study the short-tailed bat. It is a better walker than most bats, but it can't run like the vampire bat.

"When I got the scholarship I ended up going to study under the person who wrote the book that started it all for me," says Riskin.

While working toward his master's degree at York, Riskin travelled to Belize and Costa Rica to study bats. One of the tropical bats he studied has suction cups on its hind feet and thumbs that it uses to hold onto leaves and branches. Riskin became interested in how the bat moved around using these suction cups.

"I suddenly realized there was this gaping hole in the literature," he says, about walking motion in bats. "It's not all that surprising, really—it's similar to how there's not much scientific research into how horses swim."

That realization gave Riskin the idea for the doctoral research he is now pursuing at Cornell.

"The main question I've been trying to answer is why some bats are so much better on the ground than others," says Riskin. "Vampire bats are very different from all other bats. They feed exclusively on blood, and all the unique things they do seem to be associated with their diet."

—Roland Lines



bookmarks

Friends in a New Land

Elaine Essien, '73 BED

Friends in a New Land follows the Wright family as they face the struggles and simple pleasures of pioneer life. The novel is set in 1902, in what is now Alberta, and will appeal to children ages eight to eleven. (Tortoise Press Inc., www.tortoisepress.com)



Representation and Democratic Theory

Edited by **David Laycock, '76 BA**

Containing 11 articles divided into three sections, *Representation and Democratic Theory* discusses the complexity of contemporary political representation and the importance of re-invigorating public life. This book will be a welcome addition to the libraries of many political and social scientists. (UBC Press, www.ubcpress.ca)



Suzanne Brøgger: en introduktion

Marina Allemanno, '79 MA, '88 PhD



In this monograph Allemanno analyzes the major works of Danish writer Suzanne Brøgger, from her first book, *Deliver Us From Love* (*Fri os fra kærligheden*, 1973) to the latest, *Crumbs From the Table of Love* (*Smuler fra kærlighedens bord*, 2004). Brøgger is one of the foremost writers in Denmark, having published more than 20 books in various genres. The monograph, written in Danish, was published in Denmark in 2004. (Gyldendal Publisher, www.gyldendal.dk)

Common and Scientific Names of Fishes (6th edition)



Joseph Nelson, '62 MSc, professor emeritus

A resource for journals, book publishers, and scholars who need to know the common name for various fish species, this guide lists the common and scientific names of fishes in Canada, the continental U.S., and Mexico. Every year new species of fishes are found and some scientific names are changed, so a comprehensive list is needed of the corresponding common names. Nelson was the chair of the committee of seven that prepared this edition. (American Fisheries Society, www.fisheries.org)

Forever Home: Good Old Days on the Farm

Victor Carl Friesen, '75 PhD

Friesen's latest book is an entertaining and inspirational collection of essays about the incidents, sights, and sounds of his boyhood on the family farm near Rosthern, Saskatchewan. A scholar of American literature and a member of the Thoreau Society, Friesen searches for the meaning in his experiences, and what he finds in the everyday events recounted in this book makes them spectacular. (Fifth House, www.fifthhouse.ca)



The 11,000ers of the Canadian Rockies

Bill Corbett, '76 BA

This is a climber's guide to the 54 peaks in the Canadian Rockies above 11,000 feet, all of which the author has climbed. It contains detailed route descriptions, extensive histories of first ascents, and abundant photos. The book will appeal to alpinists, wilderness explorers, and armchair mountaineers. (Rocky Mountain Books, www.rmbooks.com)

Clinical Psychomotor Skills

Joanne Tollefson, '70 Dip(Nu)

Designed for use in undergraduate programs of nursing in Australia, Tollefson's book has been adopted as a required text in several nursing schools in Australian universities. The book gives students a structured format to learn many of the psychomotor skills taught in schools of nursing. These tools are intended to help with the students' rehearsal of skills, for practice in the laboratory situation, and for assessment on clinical practice. (Thomson Social Science Press, www.thomsonlearning.com)



Kalyna's Song

Lisa Grekul, '97 BA, '99 MA



This is the story of a promising musician named Colleen Lutzak and the influence in her life of her older cousin Kalyna. Kalyna's sudden death forces Colleen to face grief and disappointment and decide what purpose she should devote her life and her talent to. (Coteau Books, www.coteaubooks.com)

BOOK REVIEW



Rooster

Don Trembath, '88 BA

(Orca Book Publishers, www.orcabook.com)

In *Rooster*, his 10th young-adult novel, Don

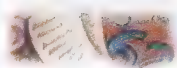
Trembath sticks with what's worked for him before—a story about outsiders growing up and facing challenges both immediate and looming. Their situations resonate with readers young and old, because at some point we've all had to deal with a version of the problems the characters face.

Seventeen-year-old Roy "Rooster" Cobb is forced into a make-or-break situation when his guidance counsellor and principal conspire to send him to help a small team of bowlers at a nearby home for adults with special needs. The guidance counsellor and principal hope that Rooster will find some direction in his life and prove that there's more to him than a cigarette-smoking, school-skipping tough guy. If he refuses to help the bowlers prepare for an upcoming competition, he won't graduate from high school.

The view from the sidelines of Rooster's confusion and struggles is compelling because the characters and the situations ring true. The dialogue is snappy and at times hilarious, and the characters in Rooster's world are accurately portrayed. Trembath's depiction of the stressed-out guidance counsellor early in her career who really lets Rooster get under her skin is spot on. I had hoped that this character would learn something herself through the novel, but after she leads Rooster to his task, she drops out of the story.

Through his assignment at the bowling lanes, Rooster gets a lot more than his high-school diploma. The lessons he learns from the bowlers—which can happen only when he cares enough to connect with them—spill over to help him in his other relationships. By the end of the novel, Rooster is seeing everyone differently. He learns that he shouldn't stereotype or dismiss anyone, especially not himself.

—Shelagh Kubish, '85 BA



classnotes

'46 Allen Ronaghan, BEd, and **Shirley Ronaghan (Hemphill)**, '52 BEd, of Islay, AB, are helping to organize the Lily and the Rose Centennial Conference at Lakeland College in Lloydminster. This is a joint conference to commemorate both Alberta and Saskatchewan celebrating their 100th year as provinces.

'50 Donald Hood, BSc(Ag), of Campbell River, BC, writes "when asked what I have been up to lately, my answer generally is, 'as little as possible, and I'm getting really good at it!'"

'55 Ken Moore, BSc, '57 MSc, a professor and chair emeritus of Michigan State U, is the recipient of the 2005 Torald Sollmann Award. This award was presented to Ken because of his outstanding and productive research career, his devotion to the teaching of pharmacology, and his unparalleled service to the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). A lifetime achievement award of the ASPET, this award has been presented 18 times since it was established in 1961. Ken's research focusing on brain catecholamine systems has included pioneering studies on the development of denervation supersensitivity in the central nervous system and on the biochemical mechanisms of action of psychomotor stimulants such as amphetamine.



Doug sporting the hat he wears on Fridays during the basketball season.

Doug was presented the Sunshine award on 19 January, which was also officially declared Douglas Love Day by the students and staff of Kingwood High School.



Myer Horowitz, '59 MEd, '90 LLD(Honorary), of Victoria, BC, will be awarded an honorary LLD from the U of Calgary on 10 June. Myer, a former U of A president and recipient of a U of A Distinguished Alumni Award, is an adjunct professor of education and the chair of the advisory board for the Centre for Youth and Society at the U of Victoria.

'57 Lynn Patrick, BSc, '60 LLB, of Edmonton, was recently appointed chair of the Real Estate Council of Alberta.

'61 Charles Crawford, BA, '64 MSc, a professor emeritus of psychology at Simon Fraser U in Burnaby, BC, had a very busy year in 2004. In February, he published *Evolutionary Psychology, Public*

Policy, and Personal Decisions. In July, he organized a symposium on evolutionary psychology and public policy for the 2004 meeting of the American Psychological Association. Two months later, he and his wife visited China at the invitation of Tianjin Normal U, and he gave lectures on evolutionary psychology at both Tianjin Normal U and Nankai U. And, in October, he organized a conference titled *Adaptations, Environments, and Behaviour*. Then and Now for the Cognitive Sciences Program at Carleton U.

Ronald Dooley, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Gemini Corporation.

'63 Richard Tingle, LLB, was recently appointed to the board of directors for ZI Corporation. Richard is the senior partner of the Calgary-based firm Tingle Merrett LLP.

'64 Evan Cameron, BSc(Eng), of St. Albert, AB, was recently appointed by Sturgeon County to serve on the board of Edmonton Airports for a four-year term.

'67 J. Dean Sandham, MD, of Winnipeg, MB, recently accepted the position of Dean of Medicine at U of Manitoba.

Neil Wittmann, LLB, of Calgary, was recently appointed Alberta's new associate chief justice of the Court of Queen's Bench. Neil has served as an appeals court judge in Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

'68 Joyce Boon (Stapleton), BSc, of Kelowna, BC, successfully defended her PhD thesis at UBC in December 2004, and she received an offer from the Okanagan's new UBC campus, UBC-Okanagan.

'69 Eileen Mercier, MA, of Toronto, ON, was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan.

Rob Lougheed, BEd, '77 BSc, '86 Dip(Ed), of Fort Saskatchewan, AB, was recently re-elected to serve a third term as the MLA for Alberta's new Strathcona Constituency. Rob serves on the Treasury Board and was reappointed chair of the Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities.

'70s

'71 George Hough, BA, is proud to announce his marriage to Margaret Denton of Hamilton, ON. George is teaching at both McMaster U and the U of Guelph, and Margaret is the gerontology program director and a professor at McMaster U. Following their wedding, the couple spent 10 days in Rome and Sorrento feasting on the sights and other delights of the Roman Empire. "Don't tell Mr. Korella (George's Grade 10 history teacher at Scona)—we don't want to do him an injury." George is always pleased to hear from friends and classmates at ghough@cogeco.ca.

Tako Koning, BSc, retired after having spent more than 29 years with Texaco in technical and management positions in Canada, Sumatra, Nigeria, and Angola. Rather than returning to Canada, Tako and his wife, **Henrietta Dykink**, '78 BA, continue to live in Angola, where Tako is a residential representative for Yme Foundation, a Norwegian nongovernmental aid organization focused on drilling water wells in the province of Cabinda as well as in the Uige province near the border with Congo (Zaire).

Melvin Smeaton, BSc, of Kanata, ON, was recently appointed to the board of directors for Triant Technologies. Melvin was the founding chair of the Division of Industrial and Applied Physics of the Canadian Association of Physicists and a founding director of the Strategic Microelectronics Corporation.

John Tan, BSc(Eng), of Singapore, is the founder and shareholder of an electronics company manufacturing liquid crystal displays (LCDs) based in southeast Asia.

'72 Rory Campbell, BA, of Edmonton, was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Canadian Tourism Commission. Rory is the deputy minister of Alberta Economic Development.

Trevor Theman, BSc(Med), '74 MD, of Edmonton, was recently appointed medical director of Regional Quality of Capital Health. This is a



Sally Rehorick (Campbell), '69 BA, '71 MA, is the director of the Second Language Education Centre at the U of New Brunswick in Fredericton. Sally was a member of the Pandas figure skating team from 1965 to 1969 and continues to be involved in skating as a world and Olympic judge. She is an International Skating Union (ISU) Technical Controller and ISU Technical Delegate.

new role that reflects the region's increasing emphasis on quality and safety in the health system.

'76 Paul van den Camp, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, was appointed vice-president, operations, of ATCO Noise Management.

'77 Cecil Abrahams, PhD, was recently named visiting university professor at Syracuse U, where he will hold a dual appointment with the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Education. Previously, he was rector and vice-chancellor of the U of the Western Cape in Cape Town, South Africa.

Randy Goebel, MSc, of Edmonton, was recently appointed president and CEO of the Alberta Informatics Circle of Research Excellence (iCore). Randy was seconded from his position as professor and chair of the computing science department at the U of A.

Shelley Miller, LLB, of Edmonton, was recently appointed by the City of Edmonton to serve on the board of Edmonton Airports for a four-year term. She was also recently appointed director of the board of Royal and Sun Alliances Canada Group.

'78 Dale Cawsey, BCom, of Calgary, was recently appointed vice-president, corporate services, and assistant controller of ATCO Structures Incorporated.

Leigh Gower, BSc, of Whitehorse, YT, was appointed judge of the Yukon Supreme Court in October 2003. Prior to his appointment, Leigh was a partner with the Whitehorse firm Miller Thomson LLP and practised mostly in criminal and civil litigation and administrative law.

'79 Emil Girczyc, BSc(Eng), of Los Altos, CA, was recently appointed president and CEO of Summit

Design Incorporated, a world-leading company in electronic system-level design solutions and methodologies.

Barbara Van Zanten (Turnbull), BSc(Nu), continues to work as a case manager with the Ottawa Community Care Access Centre, but she now commutes from her "new" 100-year-old log cabin home in Pakenham, ON. This country location will be where she sets up her Hot Glass Studio. "Look us up!"

'80 Robert Seidel, BCom, '83 LLB, of Edmonton, was recently appointed to the board of trustees for the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research.

'81 Gary Hanson, BA, of Edmonton, was recently appointed vice-chair of Edmonton Airports.

'82 Eric Erikson, BCom, was recently promoted from director of finance to general manager of Island Farms in Victoria, BC.

'83 Charles Blair, BSc(Nu), was recently named director of nursing education and research at the U of Texas Health Centre at Tyler.

Raymond Hupfer, LLB, '78 BCom, a tax law practitioner, recently became a partner in the Edmonton office of McLennan Ross LLP.

'85 Dennis DeChamplain, BCom, of Edmonton, was recently appointed vice-president, controller, of ATCO Electric.

Marguerite Ethier, BSc, of Mississauga, ON, was recently appointed as general counsel and corporate secretary of Vasogen Inc., a company involved with the research and commercial development of immune modulation therapies targeting chronic inflammation underlying cardiovascular disorders.

G.P. Sassano, '72 PhD, of Montreal, QC, recently won the gold medal in the Figurative Frontiers category at the annual Grand Gala International des Arts Visuels. Held in Montreal, the competition attracted more than 250 artists from around the world. G.P. Sassano's work, *The arrival of a good time*, (pictured) was praised for its originality, the aesthetic value of the painting, and the application of visual techniques.



Leo Kan Kin Leung, MA, of Hong Kong, China, was recently appointed a non-executive director and member of the audit committee of DIGITALHONGKONG.COM.

George Lidgett, BSc(Eng), was recently appointed vice-president, Calgary Operations, of ATCO Gas. George began his career with ATCO Gas in 1985.

'86 Sandra Byciuk-Bimson, BEd, lives in Ottawa, ON, where she is employed as a senior analyst with the federal government in the International Tax Directorate of the Canada Revenue Agency. "I am married and have one child who was born on June 8, 2003."

Jonathan Bayley, MMus, '88 BEd, an associate professor at the U of Windsor, has recently published articles in three refereed journals. These include "Howe's School for the Clarionette: A mid-19th-century instrumental tutor" in *Journal of Historical Research in Music Education*, "The instrumental selection process: Canadian Winds/Vents" in *Canadiens: Journal of the Canadian Band Association*, and "The procedure by which teachers prepare students to choose a musical instrument" in *Applications of Research in Music Education*.

Trevor Hodge, MBA, of Victoria, BC, was recently appointed senior vice-president, investment strategy and alliances, for Canada Health Infoway.

'87 Randy Krebes, BSc, of Edmonton, was recently appointed a partner with HIP Architects.

'89 Douglas Bristow, BCom, of Edmonton, was recently appointed vice-president, centralized services, for Capital City Savings.

'90 Gail Stepanik-Keber, BCom, of Edmonton, was recently appointed to the board of governors of NorQuest College. Gail is the vice-president, marketing, of Capital City Savings.

Gerald Hill, MA, of Regina, SK, won the 2004 Saskatchewan Book Award for Poetry for his third collection, *Getting to Know You*, published by Spotted Cow Press.

'91 Craig Benthams, LLB, of Edmonton, was recently appointed to the board of directors of Matador Exploration Inc.

Christine Lilje, DDS, '04 BSc, and **Jim Andrekson**, '76 BA, '80 BSc, '87 LLB, of Calgary, celebrated the birth of their baby boy, MacGregor, in September 2004. "Also, Christine finally finished her BSc at the U of A after 14 years." Jim still works for Nesbitt Burns.

'92 David Ball, MBA, of Edmonton, was recently appointed vice-president, corporate and properties, for Capital City Savings.

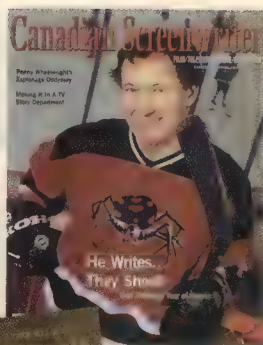
Tracy Lyn Moland (Smith), BEd, of Calgary, is the author of *Mom Management*, a Canadian best seller. Often referred to as a leader in the areas of hypertasking, time and life management, and marketing to moms, Tracy Lyn is a frequent guest on both Canadian and U.S. radio and television programs.

Tammy-Jo Mortensen, BA, was recently appointed music director at Robertson-Wesley United Church in Edmonton and harpsichordist of the Alberta Baroque Ensemble. Tammy-Jo and **Mike Bridge**, '92 BCom, '95 BSc, had their first child, Lucas, in September 2004.

Seasoned journalist and award-winning screenwriter **Don Truckey**, '78 BA, has recently ventured into a new writing stream—children's literature.

The Adventures of Caraway Kim... *Southpaw* is Don's first children's novel, and it is set in Don's home province of Alberta. "Caraway is the placé I created to stand in for my real hometown, Westlock," says Don, who now lives in Toronto. "Even though I've moved beyond that town, and the province of Alberta, in my writing, there's no question that I'm returning more and more for creative material."

Prime examples are Don's recent made-for-TV movies. *Crazy Canucks*, the story of the 1970s men's alpine team, was produced out of Calgary, and *Chicks with Sticks*, about a female hockey team that challenges the local men's team, was shot in Okotoks, AB, and produced in Calgary.



Don says his "first forays into creative writing" were during his student days at the U of A in Rudy Wiebe's classes. In addition, he was the news and photo editor at the *Gateway*, which he says was "an intensive tenure that led directly to my first career, in journalism."

After graduating from the U of A, Don worked for eight years as a reporter for the *Calgary Herald*. His second career started when his screenplays *Rough Justice* and *Tools of the Trade* were made for CBC's *For the Record* series.

He went on to become the head writer and script editor for *Street Legal*, one of Canada's most successful television series. And he was the co-creator of the action/drama series *Urban Angel*.

Don has won numerous awards, including an ACTRA award for Best Writer Television Drama, and his scripts have earned performance Gemini six times.

Kevin Yakiwchuk, BSc, '94 MSc, was recently appointed vice-president, exploration, of the Calgary-based oil and natural gas exploration company True Energy Inc.

'93 Peter Baba, BA, of Edmonton, was recently appointed to the business support team of Capital City Savings as director treasury.

Robert Edwards, BCom, of Calgary, writes, "Veronica Susan—born August 26, 2004. Hiked the Grand Canyon March 2004. Celebrated 10 years with Royal Bank Financial Group: Private Client Division since 2002."

Clinton Lee, BSc(Eng), recently joined the partnership of the Nexus Law Group LLP in Vancouver, BC. His practice covers the areas of intellectual property law, and he has represented clients before the Federal Court of Canada and the British Columbia Supreme Court. Although Clinton's practice is primarily related to litigation, he has extensive involvement with both domestic and foreign patent, design, and trademark filings and prosecution. He is also responsible

for coordinating many of his client's international patent and trademark portfolios and licensing concerns.

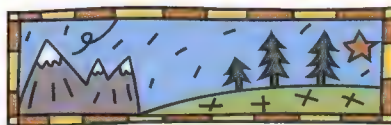
'94 Fotis Kalantzis, PhD, of Calgary, was recently appointed senior geophysicist with Innova Exploration Ltd.

Leanne Krawchuk, LLB, of Edmonton, recently joined the partnership of Parlee McLaws LLP.

'95 Jonathan Shi, PhD, is an associate professor in the civil and architectural engineering department at Illinois Institute of Technology. Recently, Jonathan and a colleague received funding from the Illinois Transportation Research Centre to study the effects of nighttime construction conditions on worker safety. Jonathan's research has been extensively published in numerous journals, and he has lectured worldwide.

Brenda Leeds Binder, LLB, of Belmont, CA, recently joined the partnership of Fish & Richardson in its Redwood City office. Brenda's practice emphasizes patent prosecution in the area of the mechanical arts and computer software.

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off the beaten path

Plumbing the dark depths of the earth

Caving is a cold, dark, wet, dangerous, and sometimes tedious activity, but **Ian McKenzie**, '77 BA, is hooked on it. McKenzie still vividly remembers his first experience exploring a cave at Bragg Creek in the late 1970s. He says it was "just so different from anything else."

It's not the physical beauty of the cave that McKenzie enjoys—stalactites and other formations slow down exploration, he says—but caving's mix of sport and science. The appeal of the unknown and the call to adventure is undeniably part of the draw. "You don't know where things go in the cave," explains McKenzie, and the thrill of sudden revelations makes up for the hardships.

Although he started caving in the Rocky Mountains, McKenzie also participates in foreign expeditions, sometimes to remote areas. He has caved in 14 countries on five continents, and he's had to machete his way through a jungle in Belize, travel bumpy roads to remote caves in Mexico, and camp in mountains in France and New Zealand. An expedition can take up to three weeks, and during that time the cavers usually camp out in tents overnight.

"An expedition's prime purpose is to locate, explore, and map previously unknown caves," says McKenzie. "While there are lots of opportunities for new discoveries right here in the Rockies, overseas trips add the elements of travel, foreign cultures, different wildlife—even the stars are different."

After 25 years, McKenzie reached a literal high point in September 2004 when he and a group of fellow cavers explored the Qaqa Mach'ay cave in Peru. With the cave mouth located at 4,930 metres above sea level, it is the highest mapped cave in the world. McKenzie says cavers are drawn to very high mountains because they create the possibility of very deep caves. In fact, another Peruvian cave they explored on the same trip, Sima Pumacocha, is the deepest cave in South America (638 metres) and has the deepest shaft in the Andes (282 metres).

Having caved around the world for so many years, McKenzie already knew



Ian McKenzie preparing to enter a cave in Peru.

many of the cavers he worked with in Peru. "If you cave internationally you do run into the same people. Once you've met another caver, you're a friend for life." It was a British geologist living in Lima who in 1999 came across an area of Peru with classic conditions for cave development. Through the network of cavers, teams were set up to explore the area on expeditions in 2001, 2002, and 2004. McKenzie was part of all three expeditions.

Cavers are a tight-knit community, and few outsiders understand exactly what cavers do and why they do it. McKenzie admits carrying equipment through an environment that alternates between "wet and less wet" is tough work. "It's not relaxing," is how he puts it. Along with the special, purpose-built tools of the trade—ropes, lights, climbing harnesses, rope ascenders and descenders, and anchor hardware—there are other essentials that can't be purchased.

"You need to be patient," says McKenzie. "There's lots of waiting around while one person gets the anchors and ropes set up. And you have to have a high tolerance for cold." The temperature in deep caves never changes and takes on the average year-round tem-

perature of the surface, which in the Rocky Mountains is about 0° Celsius.

Members of amateur caving clubs located around the world, such as the one McKenzie belongs to, the Alberta Speleological Society, record and map the caves they explore and then write reports that are published in caving journals.

"Mapping a cave is a long, slow process, investigating the main line and every passage and the side branches. You sketch details of the walls and use compact survey instruments to measure the lines. Then you transfer the measurements to a computer program that draws a 3-D image."

At 49 years of age McKenzie is beginning to slow down, and he admits he's losing some stamina and his tolerance for cold. But he's not likely to hang up his helmet anytime soon.

"Caving has given me a life worth living," he says. "I've said several times I'll give it up, but I haven't been able to yet."

When pressed to explain his enduring love of exploring the dark, wet depths of the world, McKenzie finally responds, "Cavers don't ask themselves why they are interested. They just are."

—Shelagh Kubish, '85 BA

Henry Bruns

Brian de Ruiter, BA, of Edmonton, was recently appointed sales manager, northern region, of Pattison Outdoor Advertising.

'96 Kelsey Becker, BCom, '99 LLB, of Edmonton, has joined the partnership of Reynolds, Mirth, Richards, and Farmer LLP.

Laurie Callihoo, BCom, of Spruce Grove, AB, recently joined the partnership of Tober Hembling Callihoo Chartered Accountants.

Christine Ellis, BA, after completing her master's degree at York U, worked for the Jane Goodall Institute for more than four years, and she now finds herself "destressing in Central Africa!" Christine will continue to do consulting work pertaining to great apes, community-centred conservation, and governance in Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, and South Africa. "Pending funding, I will start a PhD in related topics at the U of Cambridge, England, in October 2005."

'97 Allison Goebel, PhD, was recently granted tenure and promoted to associate professor at Queen's U in Kingston, ON. Allison is the author of the recently released book, *Gender and Land Reform: the Zimbabwe Experience*.

'98 Jeffrey Crooke, BEd, of Cornwall, ON, and his wife, Megan, celebrated the birth of their first child,

Taryn Abigail, in December 2004.

'99 William Deagle, BEd, and **Mary Deagle (Drazenovic)**, '98 BEd, moved to Campbell River, BC, in 2001. They recently bought their first house and they have two boys, Liam, four, and Ryan, six months.

Kenneth Ihas, LLB, is a lawyer with the Kelowna, BC, law firm Petraroia, Langford, Edwards and Rush. Kenneth is involved with commercial litigation.

Ian MacDonald, BPE, recently started with the Yellowknife Fire Department as a career firefighter and medic. He and **Michel MacDonald (Haener)**, '96 BSc(ENCS), '98 MSc, welcomed their first child, Noah Michael, who was born in April 2004.

'03 Rosellina Giardino, LLB, '00 BA, of Edmonton, recently became an associate with Reynolds, Mirth, Richards, and Farmer LLP.

Matthew Woodley, LLB, '00 BA, of Edmonton, recently became an associate with Reynolds, Mirth, Richards, and Farmer LLP.

Andreea Bandol, LLB, recently became an associate with Reynolds, Mirth, Richards, and Farmer LLP in Edmonton.



Hong Ling, '99 PhD, a structural biologist and assistant professor at U of Western Ontario, recently received the Peter Lougheed/CIHR New Investigator Award, which recognizes Canada's brightest health researchers early in their career. Hong's research focuses on understanding the structure and function of proteins involved in the replication of damaged DNA. Her work is important as when imperfect DNA replicates itself, mutations

occur, which result in cancer, disease, and genetic disorders. "If we can understand the molecular mechanism of Translesional DNA Replication (the process in which damaged DNA replicates itself) we may be able to prevent disease or develop new drug treatments," she told *Western News*. The award, valued at \$250,000, provides additional funding to support her research.

'04 Oluropo Ayodele, PhD, of Edmonton, joined the Heavy Oil and Oilsands business unit of the Alberta Research Council (ARC) in September 2004 as a research scientist, where his work focuses on in situ recovery of heavy oil and oilsands.

Ryan Ma, BEd, '04 BPE, has been teaching Grade 7, 8, and 10 Physical Education and Science at Highlands School in London, England,

since January. "While gaining experience in the educational field, I would like to travel and enjoy other teaching experiences abroad and ultimately provide me with a better position to carry on with my teaching career back home (Edmonton)." Email Ryan at ryanma@shaw.ca for information on teaching in London.

Elias Tiamiyu, BA, is a third-generation U of A alumnus. Currently, Elias is pursuing his studies at York U in Toronto, ON.

Saluting Alumni Excellence

The following alumni are recent recipients of the University of Alberta Alumni Association's Saluting Alumni Certificate, which celebrates the many diverse accomplishments of alumni.

Harvey Buckmaster, '50 BSc, of Victoria, was inducted as a Member of the Order of the University of Calgary in June 2004.

Shirley Anderson, '56 BSc(Nu), of Comox, BC, recently retired after dedicating many years of service to the nursing profession.

Frits Pannekoek, '69 BA, '70 MA, of Calgary, was recently appointed president of Athabasca University.

Robin McLeod, '73 BMed, '75 MD, of Toronto, was the recipient of the Canadian Medical Association 2004 May Cohen Award for Women Mentors for being an exceptional role model for female surgeons and an "inspirational mentor" whose interest in those she trains extends far beyond the confines of work.

Ruth Kelly, '78 BA, of Edmonton, was recently elected chair of the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce.

Stewart Hamilton, '82 MSc, of Edmonton, was recently appointed president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for the 2004 to 2006 term.

Anisul Islam, '85 PhD, of Houston, was awarded the University of

Houston-Downtown 2004 Teaching Excellence Award for his distinguished record of teaching and innovative classroom instruction.

Glynis Logue, '91 BSc, of Guelph, ON, was awarded the 2004 Earth Day Hometown Hero Award for making a difference and improving the environment in her community.

Darlene Bryant, '91 BEd, of Edmonton, was recognized for her exceptional volunteer work with the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus Alumni Association and her valuable role in organizing its successful 60th Anniversary event.

Jocelyn Grozic, '93 BSc(Eng), '99 PhD, of Calgary, was the 2004 recipient of the APEGGA Summit

Early Accomplishment Award for her exceptional achievements early in her professional career.

Bryan Ulrich, '96 MEng, of Elko, Nevada, was recently appointed vice-president of the engineering consulting firm Knight Piesold. Bryan has made tremendous contributions to the geotechnical community through his research and published works.

The Saluting Alumni Certificate recognizes alumni from all walks of life. Recipients receive a matted certificate and their names appear in *New Trail*. To find out information on how to nominate a University of Alberta graduate, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 492-3442 or email alumni@ualberta.ca. This program is separate from the Alumni Recognition Awards held each fall.

In Memoriam

The Alumni Association notes with sorrow the passing of the following graduates:

'32 Herbert Carl Anderson, Dip(Pharm), in September 2003
Ethel Evelyn Ford (Atkin), BA, '33 Dip(Ed), of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
'33 Edith Florence Garbutt, BCom, of Victoria, BC, in February 2005
'34 Briant Williams Stringam, BA, '35 LLB, of Lethbridge, AB, in July 2004
Ruth E. Williams (Freeman), BA, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005
'35 Benjamin Harry Sherwood, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
'38 Leonard Orville Bradley, MD, of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
John Wright Hunt, BSc, '41 MD, of Lethbridge, AB, in February 2005
Cecil Leslie Pearson, MD, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005
'39 Flora Katherine Holden (McIver), Dip(Nu), of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
'40 Laura Anne Mitchell (Christenson), BA, of Calgary, AB, in December 2004
Gunnar Mauritz Rostrop, BCom, of Grimsby, ON, in July 2004
'41 Donald Malcolm McDonald, BSc, '48 MD, of Burnaby, BC, in February 2004
John Warrington Neilson, DDS, of Coldstream, BC, in February 2005
'43 Helen Elizabeth Findlay (Orme), Dip(Nu), '44 BSc(Nu), of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
'44 Jane Bernadette Carlyle (Sinclair), BSc(HEC), of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
'45 Gerald William Bernard, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005
Albert G. Darimont, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
'46 Norris Ralph Bertrand, BSc, '48 MD, of Ottawa, ON, in March 2005
'47 Vera N. Pratt (Hole), BSc(HEC), of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005
Willard George Pybus, BEd, '49 MA, of Victoria, BC, in October 2004
'48 John William Fair, BSc, '54 MD, of Canmore, AB, in August 2004
Harry Victor Lindskog, BCom, of Red Deer, AB, in March 2005
Gordon Garfield Scruggs, BSc, of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
'49 Murray Ross Blackadar, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
Clarence Ronald Fuerst, BSc(Ag), '51 MSc, of North York, ON, in March 2005
Frank Arnold Hanning, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005
George Arthur Johnson, BSc(Pharm), of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

'50 Robert Stanley Chapman, BEd, '58 MEd, of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
Robert Donald Collins, BSc(Ag), '64 BEd, of Olds, AB, in December 2004
Robert Hughes Cronkhite, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
Donald Farnum Fleming, BCom, of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
Mabel Lillian Geary, Dip(Ed), '51 BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005
Carl Norman Hanson, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, AB, in October 2004
Jack Stewart Horricks, BSc(Ag), '52 MSc, of Langley, BC, in February 2005
Clifford Tompkins Wilkinson, BA, '53 BDiv, '68 BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
'51 Clarence Eugene Climenhaga, BEd, '55 MEd, of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
Clarence J. Deines, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
Robert Stanton Geddes, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
Edward Smith Pearce, Dip(Ed), '52 Dip(Ed), of Westlock, AB, in January 2005
David Pearlman, BSc, '53 MD, of Winnipeg, MB, in July 2004
'52 Archibald Fales Campbell, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
Melvin Emery Carlson, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in January 2005
Charles Presley East, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
John Peter Floyd, BA, '53 LLB, of Calgary, AB, in March 2005
Lambert Robert Lauer, BSc(Eng), '55 MSc, of Kanata, ON, in January 2005
Walter Paul Sharek, BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005
Robert James Stewart, BSc, '54 MD, of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005
'53 Shirley M. Crowther (Clark), Dip(Ed), of Edmonton, AB, in October 2004
'54 Avis Mae Littke, BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005
Gerald Michael Mazurek, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005
'55 Jean Margaret Martin (Leadlay), BEd, '64 MEd, of Ponoka, AB, in March 2005
Barbara Rose Rendle, BA, '79 BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005
'56 Takeo Hayashi, DDS, of St. Albert, AB, in January 2005
Joseph Edouard Michaud, BSc(Eng), of Loveland, Colorado, in February 2005
'57 James A. Gulley, BSc(Eng), of Oshawa, ON, in September 2004
Jules A. Theodore, DDS, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005
Jim M. Warne, BSc(Eng), of North Vancouver, BC, in December 2004

Frank Kozar, '56 BEd, '63 BA, '67 MSc, '69 PhD, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005. Frank served as president of the U of A Alumni Association from 1982 to 1983 and was a member of the University Board of Governors.

'58 Fred William Pahl, Dip(Ed), '70 Dip(Ed), of White Rock, BC, in January 2005

'59 E. Venita Tatz (Semchishen), BSc(HEC), of Edmonton, AB, in November 2004

'60 Francis Xavier Bischoff, BEd, '67 MEd, of Sherwood Park, AB, in January 2005

'61 Michael Cameron R. Barton, MD, of Kamloops, BC, in March 2005

Gordon Leslie Oswald, BEd, '68 Dip(Ed), of Edmonton, AB, in December 2004

'62 Audrey Sheila Thompson, BSc(Nu), of Calgary, AB, in March 2005

'63 Fred Harold Curr, BPE, '70 BEd, '80 Dip(Ed), of Stony Plain, AB, in January 2005

Phyllis Mary Ellis, BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005

Bruce Allan McGregor, BSc(Eng), of Calgary, AB, in December 2004

'65 Dale Layton Blue, BA, '71 BEd, of Amisk, AB, in December 2004

'66 Geoffrey Edward Sainy, BEd, of Fonthill, ON, in December 2004

'67 Barrie Robert Brennand, BEd, '72 LLB, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

Frederick Stephen Castle, BA, of Blind Bay, BC, in January 2005

Robert Arthur Homme, BSc(Eng), '70 LLB, of Calgary, AB, in March 2005

Boris H. Wozmirsky, BSc, '72 Dip(Ed), of Sherwood Park, AB, in January 2005

'69 Lesley Janet Hirsch (Brandell), BA, of Sherwood Park, AB, in February 2005

Carol Anne Lea (Stephanson), BA, '79 BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

John Richard Scott, BEd, '81 MEd, of Edmonton, AB, in December 2004

'70 Rosemary Sheila Lane, BA, of Gibsons, BC, in February 2005

'71 Agnes Janette Burt, BEd, of Devon, AB, in March 2005

Norman Walter Ertman, BEd, of Millet, AB, in March 2005

Grace Jacqueline Hayter, BA, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

Vera Kunda, BLS, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

'72 Ronald Melvin Goede, MD, of Sherwood Park, AB, in February 2005

'74 Ronald Richard Gorgichuk, BPE, '81 MSc, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

Shirley Anne M. Hacking, BEd, of Sherwood Park, AB, in February 2005

Laura Myrtle Thacher, BEd, '84 BA, of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005

Lawrence Arthur Wagar, BCom, '77 LLB, of Calgary, AB, in March 2005

'75 Richard Philip Gervais, BEd, of St. Paul, AB, in March 2005

Heather Rachel Layden, BSc(HEC), '76 Dip(Ed), of Rocky Mountain House, AB, in January 2005

Roman Victor Scharabun, BSc, '78 BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005

'76 Alan Avrim Dachis, BEd, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005

Murray Potter Lindsay, BCom, of, in March 2005

Phillip David Lulman, MSc, of Calgary, AB, in December 2004

Elizabeth Joanne Michalishyn, BEd, of Toronto, ON, in March 2005

'77 Charles John Keay, BEd, of High Prairie, AB, in March 2005

Gordon Raymond Powell, BSc, '79 DDS, of Calgary, AB, in February 2005

Robert James Tchir, BSc, '79 MSc, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005

'78 Carol Frances Losie, BSc(Nu), of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005

'80 Robert Arthur Cathers, MEd, of Sherwood Park, AB, in March 2005

Clara Ann Wray, BSc(Nu), of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005

'81 Lew Bohdan Stelmach, MSc, '85 PhD, of Ottawa, ON, in July 2004

'85 Janet C. Hanwell (MacCalder), BEd, of Westeros, AB, in October 2003

'86 Ronald Nicholes Doig, BEd, of Bittern Lake, AB, in January 2005

Linda Jane Putnam, BA, of Calgary, AB, in January 2005

'89 Luciana Sivertson (Pizzi), BA, '92 BA, '97 MA, of Edmonton, AB, in March 2005

'90 John Paul Hughes, BEd, of Sidney, BC, in January 2005

'92 Emily Christine Andrew, MEd, of Prince George, BC, in January 2005

Lucille Anne McRae, BSc(Nu), of Edmonton, AB, in October 2004

'93 Tanis Maureen Doe, PhD, of Victoria, BC, in August 2004

'94 Paula Leslie Brindley, MSc, of Edmonton, AB, in February 2005

'97 Kathleen Gowans, BEd, of Malahat, BC, in January 2005

'99 Erin Noelle Guthrie, BA, of Edmonton, AB, in January 2005

'01 Wendy Allison Mullen-Oldegbers (Mullen), BSc, of Edmonton, AB, in December 2004

Correction: "In Memoriam" in the Winter 04/05 issue of *New Trail* included a notice for **Walter Skitsko**, '51 BSc(Ag) of Bruderheim, AB. The Walter Skitsko who died in May 2004 was not the one who attended the U of A. Our alumnus Walter Skitsko is still living in Bruderheim. We apologize for the error.

Language is at the root of her life

by Shelagh Kubish, '85 BA



Nick Wiebe

ABOUT

CLAUDETTE TARDIF

Books: "I like to support our Canadian authors, and I like a range of books." Recently read Andrew Cohen's *While Canada Slept: How We Lost Our Place in the World*. Also enjoys books about women, especially from other countries, including Azar Nafisi's *Reading Lolita in Tehran* and Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*.

Music: singers Diana Krall, Norah Jones, Josh Groban, and Andrea Bocelli; composer Luc Plamondon; Notre Dame de Paris choir.

Favorite campus spots: Faculté Saint-Jean, of course—because of its history, the building, the campus atmosphere and "it's where I met my husband."

Family: husband **Denis Tardif**, '70 BEd; children **Pierre**, '01 BSc(Ag), **Natalie**, '96 BPE, '99 MBA; and **Claudine**, '95 BEd.

When she was six years old, Claudette Tardif (Merkosky), '68 BEd, '78 MEd, '84 PhD, was sent from the family home in Westlock, Alberta, to attend Grade 1 at a boarding school in the nearby community of Legal. Run by an order of French Roman Catholic nuns, the school she attended gave the young Claudette something that was worth the financial and emotional cost of leaving her home: an education in French.

"It was part of what you did at the time," Tardif remembers. "There were no Catholic or French public schools, so I had to go to a private school."

About her early schooling away from home Tardif now says, "I guess it built in some resilience, some capacity to adapt." It also no doubt contributed to her opinion that "to maintain language and culture in Alberta you have to work hard."

By her own admission, Tardif has worked hard all her life—"I have a lot of energy," she explains—and much of her hard work and energy has gone into promoting minority language education. She taught French at Louis St. Laurent High School, lectured at the U of A's Faculty of Education and Faculté Saint-Jean, and was part of the parent group that successfully lobbied for the establishment of École Maurice Lavallée, the first francophone elementary school in Alberta, in 1984.

"Language is at the root of my life," explains Tardif. "I've always had this interest in culture and connecting. My mother's family came from Quebec to Alberta in the early 1900s. My father's father came from Odessa, where he was a professor—he spoke seven languages. My father learned French as an adult to communicate with my mother."

Though she still sees herself as "always a teacher," Tardif also worked in academic administration, starting as director of the education division at Faculté Saint-Jean in 1981 and eventually serving as the dean there from 1995 to 2003. In early 2005 Tardif began serving as acting vice-president for external relations at the U of A.

Now the lifetime Albertan is taking her energy to a larger arena: the Canadian

Senate. In late March, she received a phone call from Ottawa. "Bonjour Madame Tardif," she heard. "Je suis Paul. Martin, le premier ministre du Canada." She was astonished by the prime minister's next words asking her if she would serve her country as a senator: "Je vous appelle pour savoir si vous seriez prête à servir

votre pays. J'aimerais vous nommer au Sénat du Canada."

Tardif was happy to say yes. "Connecting Canadians—culturally, regionally, linguistically—has always been important to me," says Tardif, and she's looking forward to the broader scope of influence that comes with her new position. She was officially installed as a

senator in a ceremony on 12 April, although she'll stay on at the U of A until 30 June.

From small-town Alberta to our country's political centre, Tardif has seen her sphere of influence expand with every step in the course of her career. She is looking forward to using her skills in committees that address social and economic issues that affect all Canadians.

"I think this can tie in with my previous role as a researcher and professor; all research is problem solving in a way—examining an issue from all sides."

Tardif has always believed passionately in minority linguistic and cultural rights for Canadians, and she believes that learning more languages benefits individuals and Canada as a whole.

"We no more can look inwards and say, 'This is our world.' Our little world is influenced by the greater world, and we want to have influence. Canada has to be more in the world, and part of that is learning how to connect—the way to do that is language and culture."

Ultimately all her work has come down to connecting—connecting ideas and connecting people—and her strength in that area, she believes, comes from her first profession.

"If you're successful as a teacher, it is because you are connecting with students—if you connect, the rest becomes easier. I've carried that with me."

"Connecting Canadians

—culturally, regionally,

linguistically—has

always been

important to me."

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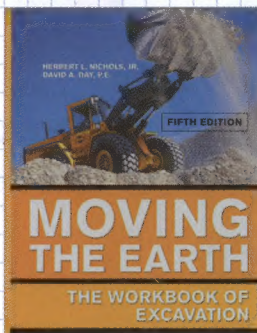
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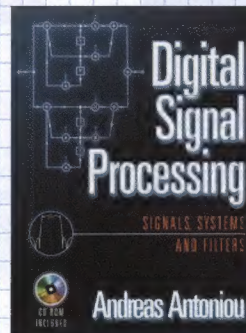
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